

6 WORLD

- Russia supplied air defense missiles to North Korea in return for its troops
- Second Australian teen dies in tainted alcohol case in Laos that has killed 6 tourists

8 NATION

- Take immediate action and arrest Gautam Adani: Kharge to govt
- Priyanka's electoral fortunes to be known today

Bhupen to seek meeting with ASOM leaders to end differences in December

'All anti-BJP parties must unite to fight 2026 polls'



GUWAHATI, Nov 22: A month after the Congress exited the opposition front in Assam over differences in seat sharing for the bypolls, its state president Bhupen Kumar Borah on Friday said he would try his best to reunite with it to defeat the BJP-led dispensation in the next state elections.

In an interview with PTI ahead of the counting of votes for the bypolls to the five assembly constituencies, Borah said he would seek a meeting with leaders of the opposition bloc, Asom Sonmilito Morcha (ASOM), in the first week of December to resolve the differences. "What will be the impact of breaking oppo-

sition unity, it is difficult for me to say today. We will discuss it after the results are declared tomorrow. But one thing I can announce here is that I will try my level best to unite all anti-BJP parties as soon as possible so that we can fight the 2026 assembly elections together," he said.

Borah resigned as the president of ASOM on October 22, stating that he was under "tremendous pressure" after the Congress national leadership refused to accept the CPI(ML) Liberation candidate in the Behali seat.

Following this, ASOM appointed Rajya Sabha MP Ajit Kumar Bhuyan of the Anchalik Gana Morcha as its president, and the bloc supported the CPI(ML) Liberation nominee in the seat against a Congress candidate.

Besides Behali, bypolls were held in Samaguri, Dholai, Bongaigaon and Sidli on November 13. The by-elections were necessitated as the MLAs of these constituencies won the Lok Sabha polls.

Borah claimed that the INDIA bloc was "not working" in many states due to "internal problems". He said the ASOM bloc has 16 parties, including RJD, SP and Shiv Sena, which do not have much base. (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

Canada rejects report linking Modi, Jaishankar, Doval to Nijjar killing



OTTAWA, Nov 22: The Canadian government has dismissed a media report linking Prime Minister Narendra Modi, external affairs minister S Jaishankar and national security advisor Ajit Doval to criminal activities in Canada, including the alleged plot to kill Sikh separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar, terming it as "speculative and inaccurate".

The denial came from Nathalie Grouin, National Security and Intelligence advisor to Canadian

Prime Minister, on Thursday came a day after India strongly trashed the report as "smeared campaign".

Quoting an unnamed senior national security official, The Globe and Mail newspaper on Tuesday reported that Canadian security agencies believe Prime Minister Modi knew about the killing of Nijjar and other violent plots. The official said Canadian and American intelligence tied the assassination operations to home affairs minister Amit Shah. Also in the loop, the

official said, was Doval and Jaishankar.

In a statement issued by the Privy Council Office on Thursday, Grouin said, "On October 14th, because of a significant and ongoing threat to public safety, the RCMP and officials took the extraordinary step of making public accusations of serious criminal activity in Canada perpetrated by agents of the Government of India."

However, he said, "The Government of Canada has not stated, nor is it aware of evidence, linking Prime Minister Modi, Minister Jaishankar, or NSA Doval to the serious criminal activity within Canada. Any suggestion to the contrary is both speculative and inaccurate."

In a press conference on Oct 14, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) Commissioner Mike Duheme warned of widespread violence, homicides and a public security threat linked to "agents" of the Indian government. Hours after Duheme's conference, Prime Minister (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

Rich countries' \$250B climate pledge at COP29 faces backlash

BAKU (AZERBAIJAN), Nov 22: In the closing hours of the UN climate conference here, rich countries on Friday proposed increasing climate finance for developing nations from USD 100 billion to USD 250 billion per year by 2035, far short of the trillions needed to address the escalating climate crisis.

A new draft text on a climate finance package for developing nations emerged on Friday afternoon, presenting concrete numbers from developed countries for the first time, hours after countries were left facing an 'X' sitting in a bracket instead of a clear figure after two weeks of intense negotiations.

However, the text says the USD 1.3 trillion per year in climate finance, demanded by all developing countries, will be raised from both public and private sources without placing the responsibility solely on the developed nations' public exchequer.

It specifies that the USD 250 billion per year by 2035 will be mobilised by developed countries from a variety of sources, including public and private, bilateral and multilateral, as well as alternative sources.

More than 190 countries are negotiating climate finance obligations by rich nations for the developing countries as part of the implementation of the Paris Agreement of 2015. The pact binds collective action to cut down on emission of greenhouse gases to restrict the temperature rise to below 1.5 degrees Celsius compared to the pre-industrial times.

Climate policy experts and observers have criticised the proposal as detrimental to developing countries, predicting a strong backlash.

Vaibhav Chaturvedi, a senior fellow at the Delhi-based think tank Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), said, "The apparent increase in the provision from the developed world to the developing world of USD 250 billion per year by 2035 is essentially the same as the USD 100 billion by 2020 if a 6 per cent annual average inflation is accounted for. There is no grant or low-cost finance component."

"This is a bad deal for the developing world, irrespective of how it is portrayed by the presidency."

He also dismissed the USD 1.3 trillion figure as a "sham."

"The USD 1.3 trillion per year by 2035 for the developing world includes finance from all public and private sources. Investment in renewable energy technologies in developing countries was USD 544 billion in 2022 alone. This figure should naturally exceed USD 1.5 trillion by 2035, factoring in growth in the sector and inflation," he explained.

Developing nations have repeatedly stressed the need for at least USD 1.3 trillion annually -- 13 times the USD 100 billion pledged in 2009 -- starting from 2025 to meet their escalating climate challenges.

Linda Kalcher, executive director of the European think tank Strategic Perspectives, said, "The USD 250 billion reads like a provocation. (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

Repercussions of Cong's abject failure felt in Manipur even today: Nadda to Kharge

NEW DELHI, Nov 22: BJP president J P Nadda on Friday accused the Congress of pushing an "incorrect, false and politically" motivated narrative on the issue of Manipur unrest, as he hit back at Mallikarjun Kharge for seeking President Droupadi Murmu's intervention and alleging the Centre's complete failure in defusing the crisis.

In a rejoinder to Kharge, Nadda claimed the repercussions of the Congress's "abject failure" in dealing with local issues in Manipur when it was in power are being felt even today.

What is shocking is how repeated attempts are being made by the Congress party to sensationalise the situation in Manipur, he told Kharge, asserting that the current dispensation has been working since the first incidents of violence to bring stability and peace in the state.

He said Kharge seemed to have forgotten that not only did his government legitimise the illegal migration of foreign militants to



India, the then home minister P Chidambaram had signed treaties with them. These known militant leaders fleeing their country to avoid arrest were wholeheartedly endorsed and encouraged to carry on their destabilising efforts, Nadda claimed.

"This complete failure of India's security and administrative protocols under your government is one of the major reasons why militant and habitually violent organisations are attempting to destroy the hard-won peace in Manipur and push it back several decades into the age of anarchy," he said.

Unlike the Congress, the BJP-led NDA government will not allow this to happen at any cost, he added. He said the governments at the Centre (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

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Bodies of nine Manipur victims handed over to family members in Assam

SILCHAR, Nov 22: The bodies of nine people from Manipur, including those of six abducted and killed in Jiribam, have been handed over to their family members at the Silchar Medical College Hospital (SMCH) in Assam, officials said.

Postmortem examinations of the bodies were conducted at SMCH in Silchar district bordering Jiribam district of Manipur.

The next of kin of the victims, all belonging to the Meitei community, had initially refused to accept the bodies till they got justice. They, however, later agreed to accept the bodies as the National Investigation Agency (NIA) is inquiring into the incidents of violence.

The family members were also demanding that those 10 slain Kukis be declared as militants as they had come from Churachandpur to Jiribam with arms and could not be members of an ordinary village defence party.

Officials said that both Assam and Ma-

nipur police personnel are escorting the convoy of nine bodies being taken to Jiribam, around 55 km away.

The convoy was stopped at several places along the way as representatives of various Meitei groups offered floral tributes to the deceased.

The bodies include six women and children, who were allegedly abducted from a relief camp on November 11 by Kuki-Zo militants from Jiribam's Borobekra area when a group of Kuki youths were engaged in an encounter with CRPF in which 10 of them were killed.

The six women and children were identified as Yumrembam Rani Devi (60), Telem Thoibi Devi (31) and her daughter Telem Thajamanbi Devi (8), Laishram Heithoibi Devi (25) and her two children Laishram Chingkeingamba Singh (two-and-a-half-years old) and Laishram Lamngamba Singh (10 months). The bodies of the two other persons are Laishram (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

Priyanka-Rahul alliance in Parl to unsettle BJP, NDA: Pilot

NEW DELHI, Nov 22: Predicting a big win for Priyanka Gandhi Vadra in the Wayanad Lok Sabha bypoll, Congress general secretary Sachin Pilot on Friday said her joining forces with Rahul Gandhi in Parliament will "certainly give sleepless nights" to the BJP and the NDA.

In an interview with PTI a day before the poll results, Pilot said, "We are looking at a historic win for Priyanka ji from Wayanad."

"She has been working in the party for many years now and campaigned extensively for Rahul ji, Sonia ji and even Rajiv ji at one point in time, so she is very well connected with the party workers across the country," the former Union minister said.

As the general secretary of the party, she has shown her capacity to motivate the cadre, Pilot said.

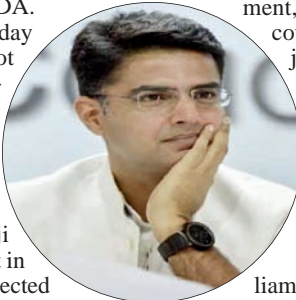
She is a very popular face across the

country and will be a fine advocate not only for people in Kerala but as a voice for women and young people in Parliament, he told PTI.

"Rahul Gandhi as Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha has taken on the government, forcing them to be more accountable, and Priyanka ji joining the ranks will be tough days for the NDA. One plus one will become 11 in the Lok Sabha. Her joining forces with Rahul ji in Parliament will certainly give sleepless nights to the BJP and the NDA," Pilot said.

Polling for the Wayanad parliamentary constituency took place on November 13 and results would be declared on November 23.

Priyanka Gandhi thanked people for exercising their franchise and said they are an inspiration for her to work even harder as well as keep (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)



Counting of votes in 5 state assembly seats today

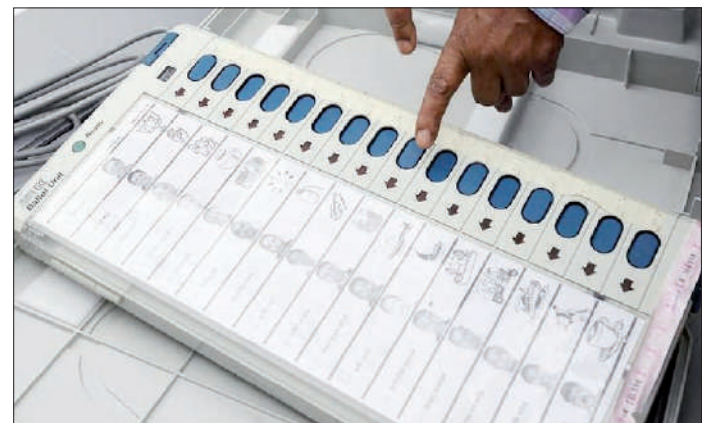
GUWAHATI, Nov 22: Elaborate security arrangements have been made for the counting of votes for the by-elections in the five assembly seats in Assam on Saturday, officials said.

The counting of votes will start at 8 am in Dholai, Samaguri, Behali, Bongaigaon and Sidli constituencies to decide the fate of 34 candidates, they said.

The counting of votes for the Dholai seat will be held at the Inter-State Truck Terminal in Ramnagar. The counting for the Sidli seat will be held at the district centre in Kajalgaon, while the counting for Bongaigaon will be held at Bongaigaon College.

In Behali and Samaguri, the counting will be held at the district commissioner's offices.

All preparations for the counting of votes have been completed, officials said on Friday evening.



The bypolls were held as these seats fell vacant following the election of their MLAs to the Lok Sabha.

The campaigning in Samaguri was marked by sporadic incidents of violence and clashes between BJP and Congress supporters.

The seat was vacated by former Congress minister Rakibul Husain who won the Dhubri Lok Sabha seat by a record margin of over 10 lakh votes. The Congress fielded his son Tanzil Hussain in the seat against BJP's Dipu Ranjan Sarma. (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

FTA talks with India to relaunch early in 2025: UK PM

LONDON, Nov 22: The Free Trade Agreement negotiations with India -- expected to significantly boost the estimated GBP 42-billion a year bilateral trade partnership -- will be relaunched early in the new year, Prime Minister Keir Starmer has informed the UK Parliament here.

It came during his statement to update the House of Commons on Thursday about his G20 Summit visit to Brazil, where he said he had a "good discussion" with Prime Minister Narendra Modi among other world leaders.

The meeting earlier this week had led to both countries agreeing to resume the election-stalled Free Trade Agreement (FTA) talks.

"I had a good discussion with Prime Minister Modi about deepening our bilateral ties," Starmer told the members of Parliament.

"We agreed to raise the ambition of our UK-India comprehensive strategic partnership, which covers security, defence, technology, climate, health and education, building on the unique bonds and cultural ties between our two countries.

"Crucially, this work will start with trade and in-



vestment and I am pleased to say that we agreed to relaunch Free Trade Agreement negotiations early in the new year," he said.

The talks had been paused in the 14th round as the general election cycles kicked in for both nations, with FTA negotiations that began under a Conservative Party government now being picked up by a Labour-led administration in charge in Britain. "Boosting economic growth is key to (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

'Tourism is declining and our global reputation is crumbling'

Air pollution in North India a 'national emergency', MPs must discuss ways to end crisis: Rahul

NEW DELHI, Nov 22: Asserting that air pollution in North India is a "national emergency", Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Friday urged fellow MPs to come together in the upcoming Parliament session and discuss how the nation can end this crisis once and for all.

He said the air pollution crisis needs a collective national response, not political blame games.

Gandhi shared a video on X in which he is discussing the air pollution issue with environmentalist Vimlendu Jha at the India Gate here.

In his post along with the video, the Congress leader said air pollution in North India is a national emergency -- a public health crisis that is stealing our children's future and suffocating the elderly, and an environmental and economic disaster that is ruining countless lives.



"The poorest among us suffer the most, unable to escape the toxic air that surrounds them. Families are gasping for clean air, children are falling sick and millions of lives are being cut

short. Tourism is declining and our global reputation is crumbling," the former Congress chief said.

"The cloud of pollution covers hundreds of kilometres. Cleaning it up will need major changes and decisive action -- from governments, companies, experts and citizens. We need a collective national response, not political blame games," he added.

As Parliament meets in a few days, the MPs will all be reminded of the crisis by our irritated eyes and sore throats, he said.

"It is our responsibility to come together and discuss how India can end this crisis once and for all," Gandhi said.

In the video, the Congress leader asks the reasons for the air pollution crisis from Jha who responds by saying that it is a pan India problem and in NCR there are (CONTD. ON PAGE-2)

Diphu hosts Yuva Utsav India @ 2024

HT Bureau

DIPHU, Nov 22: The District Level Yuva Utsav India @ 2024, organised by Nehru Yuva Kendra, Diphu, Karbi Anglong, hosted a Cultural Festival Group Event at Diphu Government College. The event is part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. The programme was organised under the aegis of the Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, government of Assam.

The college principal, Muazzum Hussain Borbhuya, thanked the Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council and the government for selecting Diphu Government College to host the event. The Utsav included competitions such as Science Mela, Young Artists Camp, Young Writers Camp, and Mobile Photography. In the evening, a cultural festival was held featuring invited artists and others. More than 500 students attended the Utsav. The event was attended by Diphu MLA Bidya Sing Englang and Member of the Autonomous Council of Karbi Anglong Autonomous Council, Johny Timung, among others.

Swarm of bees stings 15 at Rongkiri DBS

HT Bureau

DIPHU, Nov 22: Fifteen students and teachers of Rongkiri Don Bosco School, Langtuk Apam, located 140 km from Diphu in West Karbi Anglong under the Chinthong Member of Autonomous Council constituency, were stung by a swarm of bees.

According to sources, the incident occurred around 2:00 pm on Thursday when a swarm of bees suddenly entered the school campus, attacking hostellers and teachers and injuring 12 students and three teachers.

Local Member of Autonomous Council (MAC) Avijit Kro informed that he provided financial assistance to the victims and arranged medical treatment at Baihalango Medical Sub-Center. All the victims were taken to the nearby medical sub-centre for medical attention and have received the necessary medical aid.

Workshop on Mission Basundhara 3.0 held in Jorhat

HT Correspondent

JORHAT, Nov 22: A day-long zonal workshop on Mission Basundhara 3.0 (My Land My Right) for Revenue Department officials, including additional district commissioners, additional district commissioners of co-districts, revenue circle officers, land records assistants, and land records supervisors from seven districts, was held at the auditorium of the Chou Lung Siu-Ka-Pha Samanway Kshetra at Mohbandha here on Thursday.

ABSU lauds CM Himanta for honouring Kachari legacy

HT Correspondent

KOKRAJHAR, Nov 22: The All Bodo Students Union (ABSU) has expressed deep gratitude to Himanta Biswa Sarma, chief minister of Assam, and Biswajit Daimary, Speaker of the Assam Legislative Assembly, for the historic installation of a sandstone monolith pillar at the Assam Legislative Assembly premises on Thursday amidst a ceremony in Dispur.

In a press statement, ABSU president Dipen Boro and general secretary Khanindra Basumatary stated that the students' union has expressed its deepest gratitude to Himanta Biswa Sarma, chief minister of Assam, for his visionary initiative to install a sandstone monolith pillar at the entrance of the Assam Legislative Assembly. This installation, commemorating the ancient Kachari civilisation, is seen by ABSU as a momentous tribute to the rich cultural and historical heritage of Assam.

The sandstone monolith pillar, which stands

Chirang gears up for Sidli by-election vote counting

HT Correspondent

KOKRAJHAR, Nov 22: The Chirang district administration and election authorities are all set to conduct the counting of votes for the 31 No Sidli LAC by-election on Saturday at the district center complex, Kajalgaon.

Necessary arrangements and preparations have been completed to conduct the counting of votes amidst strong security vigilance around the counting center and strong room.

Notably, the by-elections for five assembly constituencies in the state of Assam, including Sidli LAC, were held on November 13, with a voter turnout of nearly 75.50 percent.

The by-election in Sidli LAC was necessitated due to the resignation of MLA Joyanta Basumatary, who was elected to the Lok Sabha in the recently concluded Parliamentary elections held in June.

The by-election in Sidli LAC took place at 273 polling stations across the constituency.

The fate of the three contesting candidates will be revealed on Saturday.

UPPL candidate Nirmal Kumar Brahma, backed by the NDA alliance, Sanjib Wary of Congress, and Suddha Kumar Basumatary of the BPF party contested the by-election.

Meanwhile, each of the contesting candidates has claimed victory in the by-election from Sidli LAC.

UPPL candidate Nirmal Kumar Brahma expressed confidence that he will emerge victorious as people across communities voted in favour of the UPPL party, backed by the NDA alliance. He stated that common masses across the constituency had come forward to support the UPPL candidate, ensuring his victory. He added that he is winning the Sidli LAC by a significant margin.

"The people's mandate will come in favour of UPPL and the NDA alliance in Sidli LAC," said Pramod Boro, the CEM of the Bodoland Territorial Region and UPPL president.

BPF candidate Suddha Kumar Basumatary also claimed that he will emerge victorious in Sidli LAC as common voters cast their votes in his favour.

Awareness prog highlights non-power applications of nuclear energy

HT Correspondent

DIBRUGARH, Nov 22: The Board of Radiation and Isotope Technology (BRIT), Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), in association with Assam Medical College Hospital (AMCH), conducted an 'Awareness Programme on Non-Power Applications of Nuclear Energy' on Friday at the Oil Lecture Hall Complex, Dibrugarh.

This event was part of the department's initiative to organise events periodically to showcase the benefits of radiation and isotope technology in industry, healthcare, agriculture, and associated fields to meet societal needs.

For the first time, such an event was conducted in the North East Region (NER) by BRIT in collaboration with various DAE units, including the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre, Variable Energy Cyclotron, Atomic Minerals Division, Dr B Borooah Cancer Hospital, and others.

The event was attended by more than 120 delegates, including medical practitioners, post-



graduate students, refinery professionals, and university teachers.

The programme was inaugurated by Arijit Mahajan, SDO, Dibrugarh, in the presence of Pradip Mukherjee, chief executive, and Dr Vijay Kadwad, deputy general manager from BRIT. Prof Reema Nath, vice principal; Prof Dhruvajyoti Bhuyan, superintendent; and Prof Gourangje Gogoi of Assam Medical College Hospital were also present.

During the inaugural keynote address, Pradip

Mukherjee, chief executive, BRIT, explained the applications of nuclear energy beyond power generation and emphasised the role of isotopes and radiations in contributing to the 'wealth and prosperity' of the nation.

Senior scientists from DAE and faculty members from AMCH elaborated on the versatile benefits of nuclear technology in cancer and other disease diagnosis and treatment through radiopharmaceuticals, agricultural advancements through crop improvement using radiations, and industrial applications such as non-destructive testing for manufacturing industries and online isotope diagnosis through tracer studies for petrochemical industries.

The highlight of the event was the display of cutting-edge working models demonstrating various DAE technologies, which were well appreciated by the delegates.

The awareness programme also saw the participation of around 60 schoolchildren from Dibrugarh, who enthusiastically took part in essay and quiz competitions.

First grievance redressal bench session conducted in Haflong

NCPCR and ASCPCR join hands with Dima Hasao admin to address child welfare issues

HT Correspondent

HAFLONG, Nov 22: The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR), in partnership with the Assam State Commission for Protection of Child Rights (ASCPCR) and the Dima Hasao district administration, held its first-ever grievance redressal bench in Haflong. This landmark event, conducted at the Government Boys' Higher Secondary School campus, aimed to address child rights violations and promote welfare initiatives.

The bench was chaired by Dr Shyamal Prasad Saikia, IPS (retd), chairman of ASCPCR, alongside ASCPCR member Rilanjana Talukdar. Donphainon Thaosen, executive member of the North Cachar Hills Autonomous Council, attended as the chief guest.

During his address, Thaosen praised the initiative, calling on departments to spread awareness about vital government schemes such as scholarships, financial



aid, and the POCSO Act. He emphasised the importance of unified efforts to safeguard children's rights across the district.

Dr Saikia underscored the need for government services to reach children in need, especially those facing challenges like missing documentation, disrupted education, or healthcare issues stem-

ming from economic hardship or parental loss. He assured that the Commission would act promptly to address unresolved cases.

ASCPCR member Rilanjana Talukdar commended the significant public turnout and registrations for the camp. She expressed hope that this initiative would ensure greater awareness and pro-

tection of child rights in Dima Hasao, ensuring no child is denied their entitlements.

Sangeeta Devi, ADC of Dima Hasao district, highlighted the event's goal of enabling children to fully enjoy their rights as mandated by the constitution and various legal provisions. Rajdeep Kempriai, in-charge deputy director of Social Welfare, outlined the Commission's efforts to uphold child rights and pledged continued support for such initiatives.

More than 25 departments and organisations, including Social Welfare, Education, Health, Labour, Assam Police, and Aadhaar service providers, participated in the event. Senior officials Farooq Ahmed, APS (addl SP), and leading health officers contributed to the camp's success.

The program marked a milestone in child welfare efforts in Dima Hasao, establishing a model for future initiatives aimed at protecting and promoting the rights of children in the region.

12 convicted in 2021 Hojai doctor assault case

HT Correspondent

HOJAI, Nov 22: After three years of court proceedings, the Court of the District and Sessions Judge, Sankardev Nagar, Hojai, on Friday pronounced its judgment in the sensational case of the brutal attack on on-duty physician Dr Seuj Kr Senapati. Dr Nageswar Choudhury, nurse Lalita Bharali, and UBC Kunja Mohan Nath by an irate mob at Phultoli Model Hospital near Udali in Hojai district on June 1, 2021. The attack had sparked worldwide outrage across all sections of society.

The Court of the District and Sessions Judge on Friday convicted 12 accused persons, namely Kamar Uddin, Hillal Uddin, Gulnehar Begum, Tajur Rahman, Jibabur Rahman, Makbul, Foijur Rahman, Abdur Rahman, Taibur Rahman, Jeshim Uddin alias Papu Borbhuyan, Nazrul Islam, and Mofizur Rahman.

On the other hand, 21 other accused persons were partially implicated by witnesses. Having already spent more than a year in jail, they were acquitted by the Court. The Special Public Prosecutor in the case was Amar Jyoti Saikia.

It is noteworthy that the Lanka police had filed a 639-page

chargesheet at the Chief Judicial Magistrate Court in Sankardev Nagar, Hojai, on June 29, 2021. The chargesheet named 33 accused and 40 witnesses.

Following the incident, FIR No 370/21 was registered at Lanka Police Station. Within 29 days, the Lanka police, under the leadership of superintendent of police Barun Purkayastha and DSP and investigating officer in the case, Rosy Talukdar, filed the chargesheet.

The complaint was filed by Dr Imran Hussain, I/C, Udali Model Hospital. The incident occurred on June 1, 2021, when an irate mob physically attacked on-duty physician Dr Senapati and three other nursing staff after a Covid-19 patient, Gaisuddin, a resident of No 2 Pipalphukuri, succumbed to the infection. The patient was admitted to the hospital around 11:00 am and passed away at 2:00 pm.

After the judgment, GP Singh, DGP of the government of Assam, posted on X, "In the infamous Doctor Assault case of Udali - Hojai of 2021, the competent court has pronounced 12 accused persons guilty and awarded imprisonment of up to 10 years. Compliments to the entire investigation and prosecution team."

26th Diocesan Youth Convention begins at Satgaon Parish

HT Correspondent

DONGKAMUKAM, Nov 22: The 26th edition of the Diocesan Youth Convention was kick-started on Friday at Satgaon Mary Help of Christians Church, Satgaon Parish in West Karbi Anglong. The convention, held from November 22 to 24, is organised by the Indian Catholic Youth Movement (ICYM) of Diphu Diocese with the theme 'Those who hope in the Lord will run and not grow weary' (Isaiah 40:31).

In the keynote address, the chief guest, Fr Sebastian Kuruchial, provincial of Guwahati Province, and Fr John Timung, vicar general of Diphu Diocese, referred to the convention as a celebration of 'Unity in Diversity'. The vicar general of Diphu Diocese, Fr John Timung, emphasised that life is a race filled with challenges for God's purposes, lasting until one's final breath, but those who have faith in Him will never grow weary.

Earlier, the chief guest, Fr Sebastian Kuruchial, provincial, inaugurated Mount Calvary in front of the presbytery. This was followed by the inauguration of the selfie point by vice provincial of Guwahati province, Fr Bivan Rodrigues Mukhim. The exhibition stall was inaugurated by Fr Pradip Ekka, and the convention hall was blessed by the parish priest of Satgaon, Fr Albert Thyriang. As of the filing of this report, more than 800 delegates have registered from different parishes across Karbi Anglong, West Karbi Anglong, and Dima Hasao. The inaugural program was attended by Fr Joseph Teron, Fr Rajib Lakra, Fr Nicholas Terang, and many priests and sisters, along with ICYM Core Committee president Jameson Teron, general secretary Birlong Tisso, and others.

Star Sporting Club's building vandalised

HT Correspondent

NAGAON, Nov 22: In a shocking incident, some unidentified miscreants allegedly vandalised the under-construction building of Star Sporting Club at Amulapatty in Nagaon town on Thursday night.

The club's joint secretary, Mrinal Kumar Hazarika, filed a complaint with the Nagaon district police superintendent, seeking action against the culprits.

The incident occurred at the club's building located on BB Road in Amulapatty, Nagaon. The miscreants, who had their faces covered with black cloth, caused extensive damage to the building. This is not the first time the club has been targeted. Earlier, the club's walls and floors were damaged, and a security guard was assaulted by two youths wearing helmets.

The club authorities have urged the police to investigate the matter and take action against the culprits. The incident has sparked widespread condemnation in Nagaon.

NFR implements safety measures for winter train operations

Advanced technology and enhanced protocols deployed to ensure safe and efficient rail services

HT Bureau

GUWAHATI, Nov 22: The Northeast Frontier Railway (NFR) is taking proactive steps to ensure safe and efficient train operations during the winter and foggy season. A series of measures has been implemented by the zone to address challenges faced during the winter months, covering important criteria such as visibility and the safety of tracks, OHE (Overhead Equipment), TRS (Traction Rolling Stock), etc.

To prevent rail and weld failures during low temperatures, thorough examinations and lubrication of rail joints are being conducted alongside the de-stressing of LWR/CWR (Long Welded Rails/Continuously Welded Rails) as needed. RF/WF-prone (Rail Failure/Weld Failure) locations have been identified for necessary recouplement. Cold-weather patrolling has been strengthened with GPS-enabled monitoring as per guidelines, ensuring precise



oversight of rail conditions. Rail temperatures are being closely monitored and recorded to address the unique challenges of the winter season.

To tackle the issue of fog, NFR has deployed advanced Fog PASS (Fog Pilot Assistance System for Safety) devices to

assist train drivers with real-time navigation, enabling safer and timely operations despite reduced visibility. Safety inspections of train roofs, under-gear components, locomotives, and rolling stock are being rigorously performed using advanced technologies to detect

vulnerabilities early and mitigate risks effectively.

Track monitoring and maintenance have been prioritised, utilising Ultrasonic Flaw Detection and modern techniques to identify potential hazards. Similarly, signaling systems are being upgraded to ensure seamless communication and operational reliability. Emergency preparedness has also been reinforced with specialised training for frontline staff and regular mock drills to enhance readiness during unforeseen situations.

NFR has implemented a robust feedback mechanism to track the progress of these measures, ensuring adherence to the Railway Board's directives. By combining advanced technology with stringent safety protocols, the NFR is committed to maintaining high standards of safety, efficiency, and passenger service throughout the challenging winter and foggy season.

Renowned art expert Maneswar Brahma passes away

HT Correspondent

KOKRAJHAR, Nov 22: Noted art and culture specialist, scholar of the Guwahati Srimanta Sankaradeva Kalakshetra, and Lalit Kala award winner, Maneswar Brahma, passed away after suffering a stroke on Friday morning in Guwahati.

According to sources, Brahma was on a morning walk around 6:30 am when he suffered a stroke. He was immediately rushed to GNRC Hospital for treatment, where he breathed his last within three hours. He hailed from Bijni in Chirang district and was a dedicated expert in the field of art. He was approximately 52 years old.

Notably, Brahma was regarded as a sincere and dedicated nationalist, a socialist, and a skillful fine artist. He was a committed faculty member of Guwahati Kalakshetra. The lifeless body of Brahma was taken to his residence in Bijni, Chirang district, in the evening for the funeral. The art and culture fraternity of the state has expressed deep shock and mourning at the untimely demise of Maneswar Brahma, a dedicated art expert.

Brahma had participated in and showcased his art and culture in numerous national and international seminars and workshops, which made him a well-known figure in the field of art. Various

social organisations and individuals, including the Bodo Sahitya Sabha, have extended their heartfelt condolences on Brahma's passing. Pramod Boro, the chief executive member of the Bodoland Territorial Region, expressed deep sorrow and condolences over the loss.

"I am shocked by the untimely demise of Maneswar Brahma, who was a noted art specialist by profession. With deep sorrow, we bid farewell to Maneswar Brahma, a Lalit Kala Akademi Awardee, esteemed art expert, and revered scholar of Guwahati Kalakshetra, who departed for his heavenly abode this morning. A true luminary in the world of art and culture, his unparalleled contributions and visionary legacy will continue to inspire and illuminate generations to come. I offer my sincere condolences to his bereaved family and well-wishers in this hour of grief," Boro said. People from various communities in the greater Bijni area expressed their deep mourning and condolences, stating that society has lost a learned art specialist of the state.

Former Bijni MLA Kamalasingh Narzary also extended his condolences and said the state has lost one of its most sincere and dedicated nationalists, socialists, and skillful fine artists, as well as a committed faculty member of Kalakshetra, Assam.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

Who covets more is evermore a slave.
-Robert Herrick

US indictment of Gautam Adani

The real import of the US department of justice (DOJ) indictment of Indian billionaire, Gautam Adani, on counts of corruption and bribery has been somewhat lost on the wider public. It is the geoeconomics of the US dominion over the rest of the world that has to be taken note of. It is an extension of the US left far beyond its backyard. The US legal set up has issued an indictment and arrest order over an alleged crime committed in India by an Indian citizen for some projects in India. Remember this is coming from a country where a US cabinet pick of the newly elected president of United States has been found to have passed on money for sex and have had sexual relations with a minor, where the winning Republican Party has refused to part with critical information on aspects of life of the presidential picks. As such, the Americans have no jurisdiction over whatever is happening in India, bribery or otherwise, however detrimental these could be for the Indians and the Indian state. Consider for a moment that an Indian court pronouncing judgments over the lapses in project implementation and bribery in the US over a project being implemented by an American company on American soil.

However, the US has a law on Foreign Prevention of Corruption Act under which Gautam Adani and his nephew have been indicted and ordered to be arrested. India might just as well pass some laws under which a convicted felon in a foreign country might be disqualified from elected office. Be those as these may, the issue is that the United States has a certain sway which extends its swagger far beyond its own borders and legal jurisdiction. This is because if a commercial entity is seeking the US financial markets for raising funds these then automatically become applicable for protection of the monies invested by Americans in those entities. Whether Gautam Adani has in fact bribed the Andhra Pradesh government and its officials and politicians is the subject of enquiry. Nobody in this country believes that large government clearances could be obtained without paying hush money. As the saying goes not even a pin could be sold to a government organisation without greasing the palms. The Indian government agencies will take action against Adani and the others named by the U.S. if those are proved as a result of Indian investigations.

Bribery or no bribery, the fact should be established that in the case of an entity transgressing the laws of the land would face consequences here and not in some foreign land. Soon enough, there could be a demand for extradition of Gautam Adani from the American department of justice. India should be ready to respond to it assertively. The opposition leader including Rahul Gandhi should remember that Gautam Adani's offences will be tried under Indian laws and he should avoid voicing the American DoJ demand for his arrest. Only Indian authorities have the right to arrest Adani group members if they are found guilty under Indian laws, not the US government.

The history of tea gardens in Assam



By: Satyabrata Borah

Assam holds a significant place in the history of tea cultivation. So Assam is often referred to as the "Tea capital of the world". Its sprawling tea estates, rich cultural heritage, and distinct flavor of tea have made Assam a key player in the global tea industry. The story of Assam tea is intertwined with both colonial history and local tradition, creating a fascinating journey that has left an indelible mark on the region.

Tea had been growing wild in Assam for centuries. But its commercial potential remained undiscovered until the early 19th century. In 1823, a British traveler and merchant named Robert Bruce is credited with discovering indigenous tea plants growing in the Assam jungles. Bruce's findings, later confirmed by the botanist Dr. Nathaniel Wallich, led to further interest in the region's tea plants. These plants, "Camellia sinensis var. assamica", were found to thrive in the unique tropical climate of Assam, different from the Chinese variety of tea that was traditionally used.

In 1839 The British East India Company established the Assam Tea Company after recognizing the potential of Assam's tea. This marked the formal beginning of large-scale tea cultivation in the region. The British sought to reduce their reliance on Chinese tea and began experimenting with local tea varieties. In 1840, the first commercial plantations were established in Assam. Gradually Assam became the main hub of tea production for British India.

The British introduced tea plantations or tea gardens, to Assam by converting vast stretches of forests into estates. These plantations required extensive labor, and to meet this demand, thousands of tribal people were brought in as workers from different parts of India, particularly the Chotanagpur plateau, under the indentured labor system. This migration left a lasting demographic and cultural imprint on Assam.

In the late 19th century Assam tea had earned international acclaim for its robust flavor, high caffeine content, and rich malty character. Assam's tea began to dominate both the Indian and international markets. Assam's tea was

exported to Britain and other countries rapidly. Assam tea became more accessible and popular worldwide through the introduction of Crush, Tear, and Curl method of in the early 20th century.

Hundreds of tea gardens were developed in districts like Dibrugarh, Tinsukia, and Jorhat during the British rule. But tea plantations was also very challenging. Harsh working conditions for laborers, coupled with economic fluctuations, periodically troubled the industry. Still tea production in Assam grew steadily. And became a central aspect of both the economy and the social fabric of the state.

After India's independence in 1947 the ownership and management of many tea estates gradually transferred from British companies to Indian entrepreneurs. The tea industry still continued to flourish. And Assam remaining one of the top tea-producing regions in the world.

Assam tea has gained a reputation as a premium product because of its distinctive flavor profile in modern times. Various initiatives by the Indian Tea Board and the Government of Assam have focused on improving the quality of tea, boosting exports, and ensuring the welfare of tea workers. Now a days Assam produces more than half of India's total tea output, with its tea being enjoyed by millions of people around the globe.

Tea has become deeply embedded in Assam's culture and identity. The tea estates, with their sprawling green landscapes, have become symbolic of the state's heritage. Festivals, folk songs, and dances in Assam often reflect the life and struggles of tea garden workers, keeping the legacy alive.

Tea remains one of the largest industries in Assam economically. Tea industry provides employment to millions of people. The tea gardens are also major tourist attractions. It offers visitors a glimpse into the process of tea production and the scenic beauty of the region.

Assam's tea garden's history is not just a story of commerce but also one of cultural exchange, labor migration, and global recognition. The tea plantations of Assam are a testament to the region's rich cultural and historical heritage. The industry has played a significant role in shaping the region's economy and global identity.

India in the Trump-Musk era of diplomacy and opportunity

As Donald Trump assumes the presidency for a second term, India finds itself at a critical juncture in its relationship with the United States. Trump's return to the White House, now accompanied by the unprecedented inclusion of Elon Musk as co-head of the newly formed Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), signals a transformation in the dynamics of global diplomacy. This new chapter, marked by the convergence of Trump's transactional approach and Musk's disruptive influence, presents both challenges and opportunities for India, particularly in the earliest days of this administration. The first 100 days will serve as a litmus test for the trajectory of U.S.-India relations, determining whether they can evolve into a more equitable and strategic partnership or remain tethered to short-term transactionalism.

The Musk Factor: Disruptor in Diplomacy
Elon Musk's appointment to a formal governmental role is as unconventional as it is symbolic of the current era. Musk's influence spans industries critical to the future of global commerce and technology—electric vehicles, renewable energy, space exploration, and digital connectivity. His ventures, notably Tesla and Starlink, already have substantial stakes in India, though not without controversy. Tesla's demands for tariff reductions on electric vehicle imports and Starlink's regulatory challenges over spectrum allocation highlight the complexities of Musk's engagement with India.

Musk's dual role as a businessman and a policymaker adds an unpredictable layer to U.S.-India relations. His focus on ensuring that his business interests align with governmental policies could pressure India to make concessions that might not align with its domestic priorities. The unresolved issues surrounding Tesla's market entry and Starlink's licensing disputes exemplify the tightrope India must walk—balancing Musk's expectations against its own industrial and technological ambitions.

For India, Musk represents both an opportunity and a challenge. His influence within the Trump administration could accelerate technological collaboration, particularly in renewable energy and EV sectors. However, Musk's business-first philosophy might also amplify the transactional tone of U.S.-India relations, forcing India to recalibrate its strategies to protect its market and policy autonomy.

Key Appointments as Strategic Signals
The selection of a U.S. ambassador to India will be one of the earliest and most telling moves of the Trump administration. This appointment will reflect the administration's priorities regarding India. A seasoned diplomat with expertise in Indo-Pacific strategies and countering China's influence could indicate a stronger commitment to viewing India as a strategic partner. Conversely, a business-oriented envoy might signal a continuation of Trump's transactional approach, focusing on trade imbalances and prioritizing U.S. economic gains.

India must prepare for either scenario. To strengthen its bargaining position, it must emphasize its indispensable role in maintaining stability in the Indo-Pacific, its growing economic clout, and its capacity to counter China's regional dominance. Reinforcing its long-term strategic value could help India shape the narrative of its

engagement with the Trump administration, regardless of the tone set by the new ambassador.

The Trade Terrain: Tariffs and Tesla

During Trump's first tenure, tariffs became a dominant theme in his economic policies, with India frequently targeted for its trade surplus with the U.S. While issues like medical device pricing and import duties on American motorcycles grabbed headlines, the focus in this term might shift to Tesla and the EV market. Musk's inclusion in the administration could amplify scrutiny over India's tariff structures, particularly on luxury goods and advanced technologies.

India's burgeoning EV sector presents both a challenge and an opportunity in this regard. While Tesla's entry into the Indian market could bring technological advancements and investment, India must ensure that concessions, such as tariff reductions, are reciprocated with commitments to local manufacturing and knowledge sharing. A collaborative approach that prioritizes co-development and innovation could enable India to harness Tesla's technological edge without undermining its domestic industry.

Additionally, Starlink's role in satellite internet and digital infrastructure could become another contentious issue. India must balance its desire for advanced technologies with its need to protect digital sovereignty and market fairness, especially given the concerns raised by domestic telecom giants.

Negotiating clear terms that encourage investment without compromising regulatory control will be key to navigating this terrain.

Strategic Alignment Beyond Transactions

India's approach to Trump's second term must be guided by a long-term vision that transcends transactionalism. While concessions on specific issues like tariffs or regulatory frameworks might be necessary to build goodwill, they should be accompanied by reciprocal gains that reinforce India's strategic importance to the United States. For instance, India could leverage its participation in the Indo-Pacific strategy to secure greater defense cooperation and technology transfers.

Early discussions on emerging sectors such as cybersecurity, quantum computing, and artificial intelligence could position India as an indispensable partner in shaping the future of global technology governance. Simultaneously, India should seek assurances of continued U.S. support in multilateral forums and collaborations in climate change and renewable energy initiatives.

A Coordinated Advocacy Effort

Bilateral trade bodies like the U.S.-India Business Council (USIBC) and the U.S.-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) have a critical role to play in this evolving scenario. Historically, these organizations have often competed for relevance, diluting their collective influence. In the Trump-Musk era, their ability to present a unified front will be pivotal. These bodies must advocate for balanced policies that promote mutual growth, resolve disputes like Tesla's tariff demands, and ensure a level playing field for Indian

companies operating in the U.S. Coordinated lobbying efforts can help streamline dialogues on contentious issues, such as digital infrastructure regulations and EV market access, while also promoting emerging areas of collaboration. By acting as a bridge between the two governments, these organizations can foster a more stable and enduring partnership.

A Test of Resilience
Trump's second term, shaped by Musk's influence, is set to redefine U.S.-India relations in ways that are both promising and challenging. The transactional tone that characterized Trump's earlier presidency is unlikely to dissipate, but India's growing economic and strategic importance offers an opportunity to reshape the partnership on more equitable terms.

The first 100 days of Trump's presidency will set the tone for this relationship, offering critical insights into his administration's priorities. India must approach this period with agility and foresight, leveraging its strengths to navigate policy shifts while preserving its autonomy and dignity.

By fostering direct, high-level diplomacy and emphasizing its role as a long-term strategic ally, India can build a resilient partnership that withstands the inevitable disruptions of contemporary geopolitics. With coordinated advocacy from trade bodies and a clear articulation of its national interests, India can turn the uncertainties of the Trump-Musk era into opportunities for growth and collaboration. In doing so, it can solidify its position not just as a transactional partner but as an indispensable ally in shaping the global order. *(The writer can be reached at dipakkurmigpltd@gmail.com)*

DEGREE OF THOUGHT

Dipak Kurmi

Must Socrates always die?

By: Dr. Aniruddha Babar

Nagaland will always need a Socrates—a soldier of truth, a visionary—who dares to ask bold questions, teach with wisdom, act with courage, pursue justice, and inspire transformation. A warrior who awakens the spirit of change, guiding the people to rise and walk the path of justice, unity, and progress alongside the rest of India—a New Bharat. In this journey, the courage to seek truth and challenge the status quo will be the foundation of a future where every soul is free to dream, to question, and to grow." Kunalim!

Does Socrates always have to die? This question stirs us to reflect on the tension between truth and society, between the seeker of wisdom and the structures that would contain it. In ancient Athens, Socrates was condemned for challenging the city-state's norms, his relentless questioning perceived as a threat to the established order. Yet his death is not merely a historical footnote; it's an enduring symbol of the human struggle between the pursuit of truth and the resistance such a journey often provokes. The execution of Socrates raises an unsettling question that resonates across time: is it necessary for truth-seekers to face rejection, exile, or even death to fulfil their philosophical purpose?

Socrates was not just a philosopher; he was an iconoclast who dismantled accepted truths, a provocateur who used dialogue to dissolve dogma. His method, now known as the Socratic Method, was designed not to instruct but to question assumptions, leading interlocutors to self-reflection and deeper understanding. His inquiry was not merely academic; it was a moral act, an invitation for citizens to examine their lives and values. This insistence on exposing what lay beneath societal facades brought him into conflict with the city-state, leading to accusations of corrupting the youth and impiety. Paradox-

ically, Athens—the birthplace of democracy—turned against him, fearing that his teachings threatened its sense of order and stability.

A key element of Socrates' influence was his impact on the youth of Athens. Young Athenians, drawn to his powerful ideas and provocative questions, found in him a guide to deeper thought and self-discovery. He encouraged them to look beyond the conventions and hierarchies they had inherited, urging them to question authority, tradition, and the very fabric of their beliefs. To the Athenian leaders, this influence seemed dangerous, as it disrupted the obedience and conformity they viewed as essential to civic stability. By inspiring a new generation to value wisdom over acceptance, Socrates became a radical, challenging the pillars of Athenian society—not through violence, but through inquiry, a force no less powerful.

But why did Socrates have to die? Why would a society built on free thought and debate turn against one of its greatest thinkers? The reasons are complex, rooted in the insecurity of those in power and the discomfort that true wisdom often evokes. When someone like Socrates questions the norms, those invested in the status quo feel threatened, fearing a destabilisation of established beliefs and power structures. The death of Socrates thus becomes a timeless question of whether society can coexist with those who challenge its most cherished ideas, and whether the comfort of familiar beliefs outweighs the freedom to question them.

Socrates' fate reflects a paradox at the heart of the philosopher's life: the necessity of facing rejection, isolation, or persecution to maintain intellectual and moral integrity. His story reveals the price often paid by those who resist easy answers and provoke others to confront painful truths. The philosopher, in seeking truth, frequently walks a path society resents or fears, because

genuine inquiry can destabilise illusions. Those wedded to comfortable certainties see such revelations as threats. Thus, Socrates' death feels inevitable within a society unwilling or unable to tolerate the disruptive force of genuine questioning, a pattern that echoes across time.

Yet, does this inevitability mean every seeker of truth must suffer a similar fate? Must every philosopher bear the cross of misunderstanding and rejection? Perhaps not in every case, but the likelihood is significant, for the courage to reveal truth often comes with a price. It's an existential dilemma, echoing through the lives of countless thinkers, writers, and visionaries who dared to speak against the grain. From Galileo to Martin Luther King Jr., from Simone Weil to Nelson Mandela—each, in their way, was a modern Socrates, facing resistance, persecution, or even death for their convictions. Ironically, such figures often transcend their mortal fate to become symbols, reminders of the indomitable spirit of inquiry.

But what if Socrates didn't have to die? What if Athens, or any society, learned to embrace those who question its assumptions? Imagine a world that not only tolerates but celebrates individuals who test the boundaries of accepted thought. In such a society, the philosopher would not be seen as a threat but as a critical voice essential to collective growth. This alternative vision suggests that the inevitability of Socrates' death isn't written in stone; it's a choice societies make in response to challenging ideas. If a society evolves to value intellectual courage as a fundamental part of its identity, it could protect, rather than persecute, its most inquisitive minds.

The question, then, of whether Socrates always has to die is one that presses each generation. As society progresses, are we learning to tolerate, even celebrate, those who challenge our beliefs? Or do we continue to suppress

Bulldozer justice: The conflict between administrative efficiency and constitutional rights

By: Dr. Satyawan Saurabh

Bulldozer justice often bypasses legal processes such as reasonable notice or a chance to defend, which challenges the right to a fair trial enshrined in the Constitution. In recent demolitions, families were given minimal notice, which is a violation of Article 21 that protects the right to life and personal liberty. This practice contradicts the presumption of innocence, where individuals are presumed guilty without trial or conviction, which is a violation of the rule of law.

In Uttar Pradesh, properties were demolished based on mere allegations without any concrete evidence, disregarding legal standards of proof. Demolitions impact not only the accused but also families and communities, which violates the principle against collective punishment. In Madhya Pradesh, demolitions due to the alleged involvement of one member rendered families homeless, affecting innocent dependents.

Bulldozer justice blurs executive

and judicial roles as administrative bodies execute punishments for courts violating Article 50. Demolishing properties without court directions shows authorities acting beyond their jurisdiction, which violates the role of the judiciary.

As the Supreme Court has highlighted, the absence of proper notice or hearing violates the principles of natural justice, leaving them with no opportunity to defend. Bulldozer justice maintains administrative efficiency and prompt action on encroachments. Quick demolition of unauthorized structures eliminates delays in urban development and streamlines land management processes.

In Delhi (2023), demolition drives in areas such as Jahangirpuri were aimed at quickly reclaiming public spaces after reports of illegal construction surfaced, thereby ensuring smooth implementation of urban development projects.

The immediate consequences of illegal construction serve as a powerful warning, discouraging future violations. Rapid reclamation of encroached areas ensures their

proper use, thereby contributing to better urban governance and public utility.

Decisive action strengthens the state's ability to uphold laws, thereby increasing public confidence in governance. By bypassing long-drawn-out legal and bureaucratic delays, it reduces costs and expedites the resolution of land disputes.

During preparations for the G20 Summit (2023) in Delhi, encroachments were swiftly removed near key sites to beautify the area and enhance security, demonstrating effective resource management for international events.

Violation of the right to life and personal liberty: Demolitions without due process violate Article 21, which guarantees life and personal liberty, including the right to shelter. In *Olga Tellis v. Bombay Municipal Corporation*, the Supreme Court ruled that housing rights are an integral part of the right to life, a principle violated in the recent demolitions.

Lack of uniformity in implementing demolition policies leads to procedural arbitrariness, which

violates Article 14 of the Constitution. Destruction of places of worship or places of cultural importance may violate the freedom to practice and propagate religion (Articles 25–30).

Arbitrary demolitions without legal notice or hearing undermine a person's right to hold and enjoy property. The Constitution mandates that no person shall be deprived of his property except by authority of law. Demolition drives have a chilling effect on dissent when used as punitive measures against activists, journalists, etc. Educating citizens on property and demolition rights helps communities oppose illegal actions and demand due process.

Initiatives by local NGOs in Maharashtra provide legal counseling, allowing families to oppose unjust demolitions. Putting in place accountability frameworks ensures that officials who circumvent due process are held accountable, thereby increasing trust in governance. Establishing an ombudsman to monitor demolitions can prevent abuses and promote fairness.

Developing protocols for prior notice, judicial review, and appeal time protects citizens' rights. Supreme Court guidelines mandating a 15-day notice period ensure transparency and prevent arbitrary demolitions. Providing alternative housing or compensation for affected families aligns administrative functions with social justice principles.

In Delhi, resettlement of displaced families during encroachment removal upheld rights to shelter. Monitoring demolitions to ensure fairness addresses discrimination concerns and enforces lawful, equitable action. Independent audit teams in UP assess demolitions to confirm compliance with legal guidelines and prevent partisan targeting.

Bulldozer justice highlights the complex balance between administrative efficiency and constitutional rights. By ensuring legal safeguards, transparent protocols, and accountability, India can promote governance that respects the rule of law and human dignity, aligns with democratic values, and enables effective governance.

Career to ensure tolerance

By: Ranjan K Baruah

It is important to have peace in our society if we want progress. This is more relevant in our region as we have seen many conflicts in recent years. There should be tolerance as it enhances development. Tolerance is respect, acceptance and appreciation of the rich diversity of our world's cultures, our forms of expression and ways of being human. We should know that in 1996, the United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 51/95 proclaiming 16 November as International Day for Tolerance.

This action followed the adoption of a Declaration of Principles on Tolerance by UNESCO's

Member States on 16 November 1995. Among other things, the Declaration affirms that tolerance is neither indulgence nor indifference. Tolerance recognizes the universal human rights and fundamental freedoms of others. People are naturally diverse; only tolerance can ensure the survival of mixed communities in every region of the globe.

The United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) does work and activities for Tolerance. UNESCO has supported the peaceful development of societies by contributing to the construction and consolidation of democracy, and the development of democratic institutions, especially in times of transition. It promotes fostering



rights, inclusion and non-discrimination.

While important advancements have been achieved in many areas, societies are still plagued by discrimination, racism and inequalities. None of the multifaceted and complex challenges of our times can be tackled effectively without inclusion. This is

the resounding message of Agenda 2030 and its pledge to "Leave no one behind".

To transform that vision into reality in a multicultural world, action must be anchored in human rights and gender equality, and promote openness, empathy and other shared values. This is the cornerstone of UNESCO's

normative and operational work which advances respect, protection and fulfillment of the rights in areas where UNESCO has a clear comparative advantage and expertise.

Cities play an important role in promoting diversity and inclusion, targeting the most disadvantaged groups, such as persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, youth, migrants and refugees, vulnerable women and girls, and the elderly. In an increasingly urban world, it is from cities that many of the greatest societal challenges emerge, so it is in cities that they must be faced – from growing inequalities to poverty and discrimination in all its forms. Education transforms lives and is at the heart of UN-

ESCO's mission to build peace, eradicate poverty and drive sustainable development. UNESCO cooperates with the judiciary and security forces to support their vital role in reinforcing the "three Ps" (Prevention, Protection, and Prosecution), to guarantee journalist's safety and end impunity for crimes against them.

Establishing a culture of peace and sustainable development are at the heart of UNESCO's mandate. Training and research in sustainable development are among the priorities, as well as human rights education, skills for peaceful relations, good governance, etc. From a career perspective, if we want to build our careers in this field then we may join an international organization

like UNESCO.

Masters and above in social sciences is always helpful to part of UN agencies. One may also study Master of Social Work or Development Studies, etc to get associated with different international agencies. One must be skillful and have effective communication to excel in the field of promoting tolerance. Learning different languages is also an added advantage to work with different communities and regions. (The author is a career mentor and skill trainer and currently Adviser of Skill Employment and Entrepreneurship Department of Bodoland Territorial Council, Kokrajhar and can be reached at 8473943734 or bkrjan@gmail.com)

Oil India Limited recruitment – 21 Pharmacist & Nurse posts

Last Date: 25 & 27/11/2024

Oil India Limited has released an employment notification for the recruitment of 21 Contractual Pharmacist & Nurse Posts purely on contractual basis for immediate engagement for Field Headquarters, Duliajan in Oil India Limited. Interested and eligible candidates may apply.

1. Contractual Pharmacist

No of posts: 04

Contractual Emolument per month (₹):

Fixed emolument: ₹ 19,500.00 (Rupees Nineteen Thousand and Five Hundred) only per month based on attendance including paid leave, holiday, if any

Variable emolument: ₹ 750.00 (Rupees Seven Hundred and fifty) only per day for each working day.

Age Limit:

Minimum: 22 years

Maximum age limit:

General: 40 years

OBC (NCL): 43 years

SC/ST: 45 years

Educational Qualification:

- 10+2 in science stream from a government-recognized Board/University.
- 02 (two) years Diploma course in Pharmacy from an institution recognized by the Government of India and the Pharmacy Council of India.
- Must have registered with Assam Pharmacy Council and should possess valid professional Pharmacist License.
- Minimum 02 (two) years post qualification relevant work experience as a Pharmacist

2. Contractual Nurse

No of posts: 17

Contractual Emolument per month (₹):

Fixed emolument: ₹ 19,500.00 (Rupees Nineteen Thousand and Five Hundred) only per month based on attendance including paid leave, holiday, if any

Variable emolument: ₹ 750.00 (Rupees Seven Hundred and fifty) only per day for each working day.

Age Limit:

Minimum: 18 years

Maximum age limit:

Gen: 40 years

OBC (NCL): 43 years

SC/ST: 45 years

Educational Qualification:

- Passed 10+2 in the science stream from a government-recognized Board/University.
- Passed 04 (4) years of B.Sc. (Nursing) from an Institute/University recognized by an Indian Nursing Council, Government of India.
- Must have registered with the State Nursing Council.
- Must have minimum 02 (two) years post-qualification relevant work experience as a Nurse in a Government Hospital or well-equipped private hospital of repute.

Or

- Passed 10+2 in any stream from a Government Recognised Board/ University.
- Passed 03 (three) years Diploma in General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM) from an institution recognized by the Indian Nursing Council, Government of India.
- Must have registered with the State Nursing Council. Must have a minimum 02 (two) years post-qualification relevant work experience as a Nurse in a Government Hospital or well-equipped private hospital of repute.

Age Limit: Minimum 20 years & Maximum 35 years.

Age Relaxation: (For all above posts) The category-wise age relaxation is as mentioned below.

SC/ST: 5 years

OBC: 3 years

How to Apply for Oil India Limited Recruitment?

Interested candidate(s) should fill the Personal Bio-Data (given on the last two pages of this advertisement) and bring it along with the following documents on the above scheduled date(s) for the Walk-in-Practical/Skill Test cum Personal Assessment(s):

- 01 (One) recent 3cm X 3cm coloured photograph.
- Original and self-attested photocopy of documents/certificates/testimonials as under:

Valid Identity Proof and valid Address Proof from Competent Government Authority.

Admit Card, Marksheet and Pass Certificate of Class 10 issued by the concerned Government Recognized Education Board; Document(s)/Certificate(s)/Testimonial(s) of essential qualification, as applicable; relevant work experience certificate, as applicable; valid Caste Certificate (SC/ST/OBC) from Competent Government Authority, if applicable; valid Non-Creamy Layer Certificate from Competent Government Authority, if applicable; valid Income and Asset Certificate to be produced by Economically Weaker Sections issued by the Competent Government Authority, if applicable; valid Disability Certificate from Competent Government Authority, if applicable; valid Discharge Book/Service and Release Certificate for Ex-Servicemen (Pages containing Personal Particulars and Service Particulars), if applicable and any other documents/certificates/testimonials from Competent Authority in support of candidature.

No-Objection Certificate from concerned employer, in original, in case the applicant is working in any organization.

Walk-in schedule:

Date:

Contractual Pharmacist: 25/11/2024

Contractual Nurse: 27/11/2024

Time: 07:00 A.M. to 09:00 A.M.

Venue: Occupational Health Centre, OIL Hospital, Duliajan.

GMCH Guwahati recruitment 2024 – 8 Doctor, Nurse & other posts

Last Date: 27/11/2024

Cardiothoracic & Neurosciences Center (CN Center) of Gauhati Medical College Hospital has released an advertisement for the recruitment of 8 Cardiac Anesthesiologist, General Duty Medical Officer (MBBS), Staff Nurse, ANM, and Physician Assistant posts. Interested and eligible candidates may apply.

1. Cardiac Anesthesiologist

No of posts: 01

Educational Qualification: DM/Fellowship in Cardiac Anaesthesia from a recognized institute and must have 1 year of experience in that field.

Pay: Pay will be negotiable

2. General Duty Medical Officer (MBBS)

No of posts: 01

Educational Qualification: MBBS degree from any recognized University under MCI/NMC and the candidate must be registered under Assam Medical Council and minimum of 2 years experience in a reputed hospital.

Pay: ₹ 55,000

3. Staff Nurse

No of posts: 04

Educational Qualification: B.Sc. Nursing/GNM Course Passed and Registered with Assam Nurses Midwives and Health Visitors Council and Minimum 1 year experience.

Pay: ₹ 20,000

4. ANM

No of posts: 01

Educational Qualification: Completed the ANM Nursing course from a recognized institution and valid registration with Assam Nurses Midwives and Health Visitors Council and minimum 1 year experience.

Pay: ₹ 18,000

5. Physician Assistant (OT)

No of posts: 01

Educational Qualification: HS (Science) with a Diploma in Physician Assistant and minimum 2 years experience.

Pay: ₹ 19,800

How to Apply for GMCH Guwahati Recruitment?

Interested and eligible candidate shall have to submit their CV at the Drop box in Administrative block of the Director Office CN Center, GMCH on or before 27.11.2024.

The schedule of Interview/ selection test for the respective posts will be communicated through E-mail or phone within a week of last date.

Dhubri Medical College recruitment – 2 Laboratory Technician & DEO posts

Last Date: 27/11/2024

Dhubri Medical College & Hospital (DMCH), Dhubri has released an employment notification for the recruitment of 2 Laboratory Technician & DEO Vacancy in Dhubri Medical College. Interested and eligible candidates may apply.

1. Laboratory Technician

No of posts: 01

Educational Qualification:

- # Diploma in Medical Laboratory Technician
- # Experience in ELISA, Molecular Laboratory etc and
- # Knowledge of Computer.

Pay: ₹ 30,000 Per Month

2. Data Entry Operator

No of posts: 01

Educational Qualification:

- # Bachelor Degree with minimum 6 months Diploma in Computer Application
- # Experience in Data Entry related to research organization/health programme.

Pay: ₹ 20,000 Per Month

How to Apply for Dhubri Medical College Recruitment?

Interested and eligible candidates may appear in a walk-in interview as per details mentioned below.

Date: 27.11.2024

Time: 10:00 AM Onwards

Venue: Conference Hall, 1st floor, Academic Building, Dhubri Medical College, Jhagarpar-783325 (Assam).

Candidates are requested to bring all the relevant documents in Original and one set of photocopies of the same along with CV and their recent passport size photograph.

Candidates with computer knowledge will be given preference.

Cotton University recruitment 2024 – Multi-Tasking Assistant vacancy

Last Date: 27/11/2024

Cotton University has released an employment notification for the recruitment of Multi-Tasking Assistant Vacancy at Cotton University. Interested and eligible candidates may apply.

Name of post: Multi-Tasking Assistant

No of posts: 1 post

Age Limit: Below 42 years

Pay: Consolidated fixed amount ₹ 15,000 per month

Essential Qualification:

- # Graduate/Post Graduate in any discipline.
- # At least 1-5 years of relevant work experience preferably in the Academic Section/Department of any Higher Educational Institution/University of repute;
- # Good Command of the English Language;
- # Computer Proficiency which includes inter alia Office packages;
- # Adequate exposure to the Physical Office Filing System and also administrative duties preferably pertaining to the Academic Section/Department of a Higher Educational Institution/University.

Desirable Qualification:

PGDCA/DCA (1-Year Duration) from a Government recognized Institute or also BCA/BSc-IT/MCA/MSc-IT or MSc-CS from a UGC recognized University;

Organizing skills with the ability to stay focused on assigned jobs with also a multitasking capability.

How to Apply for Cotton University Recruitment ?

Candidates must submit the following:

Hard copies of - (i) the requisite Application Form (available on the website www.cottonuniversity.ac.in) after being duly filled up, (ii) the Resume, (iii) a set of self-attested photocopies of all Certificates, Marks-sheets and/or Grade-sheets, Testimonials and other relevant documents in support of their credentials - in a Sealed Envelope duly super-scribed as "Application for the contractual position of Multi-Tasking Assistant at Cotton University: Job Advertisement No. Recruitment/CU/2024/14 Dt.14-11-2024" addressed to "The Registrar, Cotton University, Administrative Building, Panbazar, Guwahati-781001, Assam".

Soft copies of - (i) the scanned Application Form after being duly filled up, (ii) the scanned recent passport-sized color photograph, and (iii) the scanned signature - at the designated spaces to be uploaded through the Online Form (by clicking on the virtual link provided on the University's website.

The deadline for submission of both online & offline application is 5:00 PM of 27-11-2024 and both the hard copy format & the soft copy format of the Application Form must be mandatorily submitted within the stipulated deadline for the candidature to be considered for evaluation.

FREMAA Recruitment 2024 – 7 Officer & Supervisor Posts

Last Date: 27/11/2024

Flood and River Erosion Management Agency of Assam (FREMAA) has released an employment notification for the recruitment of Social Development Officer and Field Supervisor posts on contractual basis. Interested and eligible candidates may apply.

1. Social Development Officer

No of posts: 1

Educational Qualification: Masters/Post Graduate degree in Social Sciences relevant discipline e.g. social work / Sociology/Anthropology.

Experience: Candidate must have /possess Acquisition,

(i) Minimum 7-8 years' experience in the field of social development including SIA, Land Resettlement, conducting/facilitating undertaking stakeholder consultation, socio-economic surveys, undertaking social impact assessments and preparation of Resettlement Action Plans, Indigenous Peoples Development Plans in accordance with ADB's requirements. Experience of working in Externally Aided projects involving construction of infrastructure (roads, water resources, power/energy), would be given preference.

(ii) Knowledge of legal/regulatory requirements of GoI and GoA on land acquisition, resettlement and rehabilitation and existing government welfare/rehabilitation schemes.

(iii) Experience of working in Externally Aided projects like ADB, World Bank, JICA, etc. funded projects/World Bank, NGOs and other development agencies;

(iv) Proficiency in use of Computers to manage data base and generation of reports, is mandatory.

(v) Knowledge of verbal and written communication in English, Assamese and Hindi is required.

(vi) The applicant must be physically fit for extensive touring with age of less than 62 years.

2. Field Supervisor

No of posts: 6

Educational Qualification: Post Graduate Degree in Social Sciences with 55% marks from a recognized University or Institution. Post Graduate Degree in Sociology, Social Work, Developmental Studies and Public Administration will be given preference.

Experience:

At least 3 years of field experience especially in conducting census surveys, coordinating trainings and public meetings with District Administration and other Govt. offices would be preferred. Knowledge of Land Acquisition procedures of the Govt. is desirable.

Should be skilled in writing reports in English/Assamese and should be fluent in Assamese language.

How to Apply for FREMAA Recruitment ?

Applications complete in all respects in the prescribed format available at FREMAA's website along with scanned copies of a signed cover letter and supporting documents of age, qualification and experience should be emailed to ceo-fremaa@assam.gov.in & hrms-fremaa@assam.gov.in and the subject line should be "APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF". and should reach the above mentioned email addresses latest by 27th November, 2024.

Many in Gaza eating just once a day, as hunger spreads amid aid issues

DEIR AL-BALAH (THE GAZA STRIP), Nov 22: Yasmin Eid coughs and covers her face, cooking a small pot of lentils over a fire fed with twigs and scrap paper in the tent she shares with her husband and four young daughters in the Gaza Strip.

It was their only meal on Wednesday — it was all they could afford. “My girls suck on their thumbs because of how hungry they are, and I pat their backs until they sleep,” she said.

After being displaced five times, the Eids reside in central Gaza, where aid groups have relatively more access than in the north, which has been largely isolated and heavily destroyed since

Israel began waging a renewed offensive against the militant group Hamas in early October.

But nearly everyone in Gaza is going hungry these days. In the north experts say a full-blown famine may be underway.

On Thursday, the International Criminal Court issued arrest warrants against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his former defence minister, accusing them of using “starvation as a method of warfare” — charges Israel adamantly denies.

In Deir al-Balah, the Eids are among hundreds of thousands sheltering in squalid tent camps. The local bakeries shut down for five days this week. The price of

a bag of bread climbed above \$13 by Wednesday, as bread and flour vanished from shelves before more supplies arrived.

The United Nations humanitarian office warned of a “stark increase” in the number of households experiencing severe hunger in central and southern Gaza.

It appeared to be linked to the robbery at gunpoint of nearly 100 aid trucks last weekend in southern Gaza, close to Israeli military positions. Israel blamed Hamas but appears to have taken no action to stop the looting, while Hamas said it was the work of local bandits.

Aid groups say the looting is

one of many obstacles to getting food and other vital aid to the territory’s 2.3 million Palestinians.

They also have to contend with Israeli movement restrictions, ongoing fighting, and heavy damage wreaked by the Israeli bombardment of roads and critical infrastructure.

For months, Yasmin and her family have gone to bed hungry. “Everything has increased in price, and we cannot buy anything,” she said.

“We always go to sleep without having dinner.”

She misses coffee, but a single packet of Nescafe goes for around \$1.30. A kg (2 pounds) of onions goes for \$10, a medium bottle of

cooking oil for \$15 — if available. Meat and chicken all but vanished from the markets months ago, but there are still some local vegetables. Such sums are astronomical in an impoverished territory where few people earn regular incomes.

Crowds of hundreds wait hours to get food from charities, which are also struggling.

Hani Almadhoun, co-founder of the Gaza Soup Kitchen, said his teams can offer only small bowls of rice or pasta once a day. He said they “can go to the market on one day and buy something for \$5, and then go back in the afternoon to find it doubled or tripled in price”.

Its kitchen in the central town of Zuweida operated on a daily budget of around \$500 for much of the war.

When the amount of aid entering Gaza plummeted in October, its costs climbed to around \$1,300 a day. It can feed about half of the 1,000 families who line up each day.

Israel says it places no limits on the amount of aid entering Gaza and has announced a number of measures it says are aimed at increasing the flow in recent weeks, including the opening of a new crossing.

It blames UN agencies for not retrieving it, pointing to hundreds of truckloads languishing on the

Gaza side of the border.

But the military’s own figures show that the amount of aid entering Gaza plunged to around 1,800 trucks in October, down from over 4,200 the previous month.

At the current rate of entry, around 2,400 trucks would come into Gaza in November. Around 500 trucks entered each day before the war.

The UN says less than half the truckloads are actually distributed because of ongoing fighting, Israeli denial of movement requests, and the breakdown of law and order. Hamas-run police have vanished from many areas after being targeted by Israeli airstrikes. (AP)

Kremlin dispatched weapons as payment for 10,000 troops deployed to support war in Ukraine

Russia supplied air defense missiles to North Korea in return for its troops, South Korea says

SEOUL, Nov 22: Russia has supplied air defense missile systems to North Korea in exchange for sending its troops to support Russia’s war efforts against Ukraine, a top South Korean official said on Friday.

The U.S., South Korea and Ukraine say North Korea sent more than 10,000 troops to Russia in October, some of whom have recently begun engaging in combat on the front lines. North Korea’s troop deployment threatens to escalate the war, and what Russia could give to the North in return has been a source of rampant international speculation.

The most alarming development for South Korea and the U.S. would be Russia transferring sophisticated weapons technology that can enhance North Korea’s nuclear-capable missiles targeting its rivals. Many experts say, though, that it is unlikely Russia would do this in the initial stage of the North’s troop deployment.

Shin Wonsik, national security

adviser to South Korean President Yoon Suk Yeol, told an SBS TV program Friday that South Korea has found Russia provided missiles and other equipment to help it reinforce its air defense network for Pyongyang, the capital. Shin didn’t say what specific missiles Russia gave to North Korea.

Lee Illwoo, an expert with the Korea Defense Network in South Korea, said that Russia has likely sent S-400 long-range surface-to-air missiles, launchers and ground-based radar systems. He said that North Korea is capable of building shorter-range surface-to-air missiles on its own.

The S-400 missile, with a range of 400 kilometers (250 miles), is considered one of Russia’s most advanced anti-aircraft weapons. But Lee questioned how significantly it can boost Pyongyang’s air defense, saying Russian air defense systems have failed to effectively deal with Ukrainian drone assaults.

Many observers say North Korea has likely felt the urgent need to

boost its air defense capabilities after it last month accused South Korea of flying drones to scatter propaganda leaflets over Pyongyang. North Korea threatened to take military action if leaflets were again dropped. South Korea’s military has refused to confirm whether or not it was behind the alleged drone flights.

Kim Dae Young, a military expert at the Korea Research Institute for National Strategy, said it’s possible that the air defense systems North Korea acquired from Russia could include counter-drone equipment.

Kim said that Pyongyang’s outdated air defense system would

need years of improvement and potentially huge external help to cope with the superior air forces of South Korea and the United States.

Shin said Russia has also appeared to have given economic assistance to North Korea and various military technologies, including those needed for the North’s efforts to build a reliable space-based surveillance system. Shin didn’t say whether Russia has already transferred sensitive nuclear and missile technologies to North Korea.

During a summit with North Korean leader Kim Jong Un last year, Russian President Vladimir Putin already said that Moscow was will-

ing to help the North build satellites. North Korea put its first spy satellite into orbit in November last year, but foreign experts question whether that satellite can produce militarily meaningful imagery. The North’s attempt to launch a second spy satellite failed in May.

North Korea and Russia have been sharply boosting their military and other cooperation in the face of separate confrontations with the U.S. and its allies. Last month, South Korea’s spy agency said that North Korea had sent more than 13,000 containers of artillery, missiles and other conventional arms to Russia since August 2023 to replenish its dwindling weapons stockpiles. The National Intelligence Service said on Wednesday that North Korea had recently sent additional artillery systems to Russia.

Earlier this week, North Korea and Russia reached a new agreement for expanding economic cooperation following high-level talks in Pyongyang this week, according to the countries’ state-run media. (AP)



Second Australian teen dies in tainted alcohol case in Laos that has killed 6 tourists

VANG VIENG (LAOS), Nov 22: A second Australian teenager who fell critically ill after drinking tainted alcohol in Laos has died in a hospital in Bangkok, her family said on Friday, bringing the death toll in the mass poisoning of foreign tourists to six.

Holly Bowles, 19, had been in critical condition on life support following the poisoning in Laos more than a week ago.

“We are so sad to say that our beautiful girl Holly is now at peace,” her family said in a statement sent to Australian Network 10 and other Australian media. “We find comfort and solace in knowing that Holly brought so much joy and happiness to so many people.”

An officer at Vang Vieng’s Tourism Police office, who refused to give his name, told The Associated Press on Friday that a “number of people” had been detained in the case but that no charges have yet been filed.

Staff at the Nana Backpacker Hostel, which was still operating but not accepting new guests, confirmed that the manager and owner were among those taken in for questioning.

Tourist police offices are common in Southeast Asia and are set up specifically to help with incidents involving tourists and other foreigners.

The US State Department on Friday issued a health alert for citizens traveling in Laos, warning of “suspected methanol poisoning in Vang Vieng, possibly through the consumption of methanol-laced alcoholic drinks,” following similar alerts from other countries whose citizens were involved.

Australia’s prime minister had announced on Thursday that a 19-year-old citizen, Bianca Jones, had died in a Thai hospital where she had been evacuated for emergency treatment, and that her friend — Bowles — remained in a hospital “fighting for her life.”

A 28-year-old British woman, Simone White, also died from

suspected methanol poisoning in Laos, the British Foreign Office said.

An American and two Danish tourists also died, though specifics about the causes of death have not been released.

New Zealand’s Foreign Ministry said one of its citizens was sickened in Laos and was a possible victim of methanol poisoning. Laos is a one-party communist state with no organized opposition and the government keeps a tight lid on information. In this case, officials have released almost no details.

The Foreign Ministry has refused to comment, and in Vang Vieng, the small hospital where some of the victims are believed to have been treated, initially referred all questions to the town’s health office on the hospital grounds.

The town health officials refused to comment, saying they lacked proper personnel.

Methanol is sometimes added to mixed drinks at disreputable bars as a cheaper alternative to ethanol, but can cause severe poisoning or death. It is also a byproduct of poorly distilled homebrew liquor, and could have found its way into bars drinks inadvertently.

Landlocked Laos is one of Southeast Asia’s poorest nations and a popular tourist destination. Vang Vieng is particularly popular among backpackers seeking partying and adventure sports.

Neil Farmiloe, a New Zealander who owns the Kiwi Kitchen restaurant in town, said a lot of his customers were very worried about the incident.

“I think it’s never happened before, so it is hopefully just a one-off incident,” said Farmiloe, who has lived in Vang Vieng for 20 years. “It’s very sad all around. I’m sure nobody intended to cause injury, but it’s happened.”

The two 19-year-old Australian women who have both now died fell ill on November 13 following a night out drinking with a group. (AP)



Hungary’s Orbán vows to disregard international arrest warrant for Netanyahu

BUDAPEST, Nov 22: Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán on Friday denounced the International Criminal Court’s issuing of an arrest warrant for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, saying he would defy it by inviting the Israeli leader to Hungary.

In comments to state radio, Orbán accused the ICC of “interfering in an ongoing conflict for political purposes,” saying the decision to issue the warrant for Netanyahu over his conduct of the war in Gaza undermined international law and escalated tensions. The ICC, the world’s top war crimes court based in The Hague, issued an arrest warrant on Thursday for Netanyahu as well as for his former defence minister and Hamas’ military chief, accusing them of crimes against humanity in connection with the 13-month war in Gaza.

The warrants said there was reason to believe Netanyahu and former Defence Minister Yoav Gallant used “starvation as a method of warfare” by restricting humanitarian aid and intentionally targeting civilians in Israel’s campaign against Hamas in Gaza — charges Israeli officials deny.

In his comments on Friday, Orbán, a close Netanyahu ally, called the arrest warrant “outrageously impudent” and “cynical”. He said he would invite Netanyahu to Hungary later in the day and vowed to disregard the warrant if the invitation is accepted.

“We will defy this decision, and it will have no consequences for him,” Orbán said. Member countries of the ICC, such as Hungary, are required to detain suspects facing a warrant if they set foot on their soil, but the court has no way to enforce that. Hungarian Foreign Minister Péter Szijjártó earlier criticised the ICC’s warrant as “absurd”. The action by the ICC came as the death toll from Israel’s campaign in Gaza passed 44,000, according to local health authorities, who say more than half of those killed were women and children. Their count does not differentiate between civilians and combatants. (AP)

Tariff hikes will backfire, China can manage such ‘external shocks’, senior official says

HONG KONG, Nov 22: Higher tariffs on Chinese exports will backfire, just increasing prices paid by consumers, while China can manage to weather the impact of such “external shocks,” a senior Commerce Ministry official said Friday in Beijing.

Responding to a reporter’s question about US President-elect Donald Trump’s plan to impose 60% tariffs on imports from China, Vice Commerce Minister Wang Shouwen said that would “not solve the country’s own trade deficit problem”.

“On the contrary, it pushes up the prices of the country’s imports from China and other countries,” Wang said during a news conference, noting that increased prices add to inflation.

China is willing to talk with the US on a basis of mutual respect, for the benefit of both countries, Wang said.

“We believe that if China and the US can maintain a stable, healthy, and sustainable development trend in economic and trade relations, it will be beneficial (to everyone),” he said.

Wang noted that China’s total foreign trade including imports and exports reached 36 trillion yuan (nearly \$5 trillion) in January-October, up about 5% from the same period of 2023.

Despite the upbeat message, the

threat of higher tariffs, following on increases during Trump’s first administration and additional hikes in import duties by the administration of President Joe Biden, threatens to add to Beijing’s woes as China’s ruling Communist Party struggles to revive growth and reverse a downturn in the property market and deal with mounting local government debts and high employment among Chinese youths.

A 60% duty on Chinese imports could shave off 2.5 percentage points, or about half, of China’s projected economic growth, according to an analysis published earlier this year by UBS.

During Friday’s news conference



Wang and other officials outlined ways that China is promoting expanding trade and support for coping with climate change.

Such measures include streamlining customs and visa requirements. China allows visa-free travel for citizens of 29 countries, including France and Germany, and the number of foreign visitors, which plunged during the pandemic, has jumped this year.

Of the nearly 8.2 million foreign visitors in July-September, more than half entered using visa-free channels, said Tong Xuejun, an official with the Foreign Ministry’s consular department. (AP)

Taiwan president will visit allies in South Pacific as rival China seeks inroads

TAIPEI, Nov 22: Taiwanese President Lai Ching-te will visit the self-governing island’s allies in the South Pacific, where rival China has been seeking diplomatic inroads.

The Foreign Ministry announced on Friday that Lai would travel from Nov 30 to Dec 6 to the Marshall Islands, Tuvalu and Palau. The trip comes against the background of Chinese loans, grants and security cooperation treaties with Pacific island nations that have aroused major concern in the US, New Zealand, Australia and others over Beijing’s moves to assert military, political and economic control over the region. Taiwan’s government has yet to confirm whether Lai will make a stop in Hawaii, although such visits are routine and unconfirmed Taiwanese media reports say he will stay for more than one day.

Under pressure from China, which

claims Taiwan as its own territory and threatens to annex it by force if needed, Taiwan has just 12 formal diplomatic allies. However, it retains strong contacts with dozens of other nations, including the US, its main source of diplomatic and military support.

China has sought to whittle away traditional alliances in the South Pacific, signing a security agreement with the Solomon Islands shortly after it broke ties with Taiwan and winning over Nauru just weeks after Lai’s election in January. Since then, China has been pouring money into infrastructure projects in its South Pacific allies, as it has around the world, in exchange for political support.

China objects strongly to such US stopovers by Taiwan’s leaders, as well as visits to the island by leading American politicians, terming them as violations of US commitments not to afford diplomatic status to Taiwan after Washington switched formal recognition from Taipei to Beijing in 1979.

With the number of its diplomatic partners declining under Chinese pressure, Taiwan has redoubled efforts to take part in international forums, even from the sidelines. It has also fought to retain what diplomatic status it holds, including refusing a demand from South Africa last month that it move its representative office in its former diplomatic ally out of the capital. (AP)

Baku climate talks: The ‘X’ factor that could determine future of Global South

BAKU (AZERBAIJAN), Nov 22: After two weeks of intense negotiations at the UN climate conference here, countries are facing an ‘X’ sitting in a bracket instead of a clear figure for the trillions of dollars needed to help developing nations fight climate change — a problem they did not create.

Developed countries, which built their economies on fossil fuels and are responsible for most of the greenhouse gas emissions driving climate change, are still avoiding a key question: how much climate finance will they provide to developing countries each year starting in 2025?

At the UN climate conference in Baku, they are required to update the climate finance goal of USD 100 billion agreed upon in 2009 to at least USD 1.3 trillion per year to meet the needs of developing countries amid the intensifying impacts of climate change.

The core of the USD 1.3 trillion should be at least USD 600 billion from developed countries’ public coffers, as developing countries reject the idea of relying on the private sector,



which they argue is more interested in profit than accountability.

It’s the final day of the conference, and countries are awaiting a new “acceptable” version of the draft text that can be refined to produce a balanced outcome.

The draft text on the new climate finance package issued on Thursday contained an ‘X’ in a bracket instead of the amount that the Global South had hoped for.

It left developing nations disappointed and angry, as what replaces the ‘X’ is a matter of survival for some of the world’s poorest and most vulnerable people on the front lines of the climate crisis.

At the start of the conference, the World Meteorological Organisation sounded the alarm: 2024 is on track to be the hottest year on record, and the first to cross the 1.5 degrees Celsius threshold — the point beyond which climate impacts could become more devastating.

According to the Geneva-based Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), an estimated 23.7 million people were displaced in 2023 due to climate-related events, such as storms, floods, and droughts. This number is expected to rise unless developed countries provide the necessary financial support to help developing and low-income nations combat climate change at scale.

Harjeet Singh, a climate ac-

tivist and Global Engagement Director for the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative, said developed countries are negotiating in bad faith, shirking their responsibility and shifting the financial burden onto struggling economies.

“By pressuring these nations to mobilise domestic resources they simply don’t have, they are perpetuating inequality and deepening the climate crisis,” he said.

As per a developing country negotiator, instead of providing quality finance in a transparent manner, the developed world at COP29 has been pushing them to cut emissions but has “conveniently forgotten that they need to pay for it”.

“They want a phase-out, a phase-out, ambitious climate plans, sectoral emission cuts, everything, but don’t want to pay for it,” the negotiator said.

India on Thursday said that it will not accept any shift by developed countries to effort the focus away from climate finance for developing countries and place it on emissions reductions in the Global South.

Without adequate support in terms of finance, technology, and capacity building, the fight against climate change would be severely impacted, it said.

Developed countries have been pushing the argument of “expanding the contributors’ base,” essentially calling for nations that were classified as developing when the UN climate convention was adopted in 1992 but have since grown significantly, to also contribute to climate finance.

For developing countries, this is a red line. They argue that this would mean reopening and renegotiating the convention and the Paris Agreement.

“Would you renegotiate 1.5 degrees Celsius, too?” another negotiator from a developing country asked.

With just hours to go before the conference wraps up, negotiators are in high-stakes talks, scrambling to salvage the summit and the progress of the last three years. Meanwhile, civil society members, observers, and journalists are placing bets on how long this will drag on — it is clear the summit will head into extra time. (PTI)

Mizoram govt planning to relocate all refugees to one place

Plans are afoot to relocate 2,014 refugees from Bangladesh's Chittagong Hill Tracts

AIZAWL, Nov 22: The Mizoram government is planning to relocate all refugees taking shelter in different parts of the state and to bring them in one place, according to Lalmuani Punte, political adviser to the chief minister.

Punte on Thursday convened a meeting with officials of south Mizoram's Lawngtlai district to discuss issues concerning over 2,000 Bangladeshi refugees taking shelter in the district.

He told the meeting that proper guidelines should be formulated to prevent the refugees from settling and shifting anywhere they want.

Punte said that the government is taking steps to relocate and bring the refugees together in one place rather than be scattered in different villages for administrative convenience.

The plan will also help the government in providing humanitarian assistance in a more convenient way, he said.

Punte further said that plans are afoot to relocate 2,014 refugees from Bangladesh's Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) currently taking



shelter in different villages in Lawngtlai district to four villages within the district.

Lawngtlai shares border with both Myanmar and Bangladesh and the southernmost district cur-

rently hosts 6,030 refugees from Myanmar and 84 internally displaced people from Manipur besides 2,014 Bangladeshi refugees, according to deputy commissioner Cheemala Siva Gopal Reddy.

Earlier, Young Mizo Association (YMA), the largest civil society organisation in the state, urged the state government to constitute a systematic mechanism, including proper shelter homes, for housing and handling over 42,000 refugees and internally displaced people.

According to the state Home department, over 33,000 Myanmar nationals, including 12,572 children, are currently taking shelter across all the 11 districts of the state.

Besides, 7,756 internally displaced people from Manipur also took shelter in different parts of the state, it said. (PTI)

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Suspects involved in looting properties of Manipur ministers identified: CM

IMPHAL, Nov 22: Manipur chief minister N Biren Singh on Friday said that suspects involved in looting the properties of ministers and MLAs during protests on November 16 were identified and legal actions initiated.

He condemned incidents like torching the photograph of a minister's late father in his house, looting the residence of an MLA and firing inside a car showroom, and wondered whether these could be part of any agitation.

"In the name of democratic movement, some gangs have looted and burnt the residences of ministers and MLAs. Suspects have been identified through CCTV and appropriate legal actions have been initiated. I feel ashamed to publicly say that such things are happening in Manipur," Singh told reporters.

Urging people not to get involved in any activities that led to suspension of internet, the chief minister said, "Do not blame the government only. We need to correct ourselves as well."

He said he has no objections against anyone who genuinely protested against the killing of children and women in Jiribam district.

"But those politically motivated gangs who took advantage of the situation, we will take legal action (against them)," Singh said. Had not CRPF gunned down 10 or 11 militants in Jiribam, some



100 civilians would have been killed on November 11 since the attackers wanted to over run a relief camp in Borobekra and a police station, the CM claimed.

So, the steps taken by the central forces should be appreciated, Singh said.

"When the situation improves, we will make sure to lift suspension on (mobile) internet. Operations are on to apprehend the attackers. Though the NIA is also handling the case of the killing of innocents in Jiribam, the state government is not silent. We are also looking for them. The government will seek to protect lives and properties of civilians," Singh said.

Manipur has seen a fresh wave of protests after six people — three Meitei women and three children — went missing from a camp for displaced persons in Jiribam last week, following a gunfight be-

tween armed men and security forces that resulted in the deaths of 10 Kuki youths.

More than 220 people have been killed and thousands rendered homeless in ethnic violence between Imphal Valley-based Meiteis and adjoining hills-based Kuki-Zo groups since May last year.

The CM also slammed Congress leader P Chidambaram for advocating for regional autonomy in an X post, which he later deleted.

To a question on Rahul Gandhi urging Prime Minister Narendra Modi to arrest of industrialist Gautam Adani in the backdrop of charges of bribery and fraud against the Adani group in the US, Singh alleged that America is trying to pull down India.

"Will India do what the US says? The allegations are baseless," he said. (PTI)

New Chief Justice of Manipur HC sworn in

IMPHAL, Nov 22: Justice D Krishnakumar was sworn in as the eighth Chief Justice of the High Court of Manipur on Friday, officials said.

Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya administered the oath of office to the new Chief Justice in the swearing-in ceremony in Raj Bhavan in Imphal.

He was appointed the Chief Justice of the high court on Wednesday within 48 hours of the Supreme Court Collegium making the recommendation.

He replaced Justice Siddharth Mridul who retired.

Justice D Krishnakumar earlier served as a judge of the Madras High Court.

Chief minister N Biren Singh congratulated the new Chief Justice. "I look forward to working with you in furthering the cause of justice and ensuring that every citizen's rights are safeguarded and respected. May your tenure be filled with wisdom, progress, and positive transformation for the people of Manipur," Singh said in a post on X. (PTI)

Internet ban in Manipur traumatises citizens, disrupts services

IMPHAL, Nov 22: In 2023, the Manipur government banned internet service in the state for several weeks. The longest internet suspension in the state was triggered by the May 3, 2024 incident.

Again, the state government had on November 17, 2024 suspended internet and mobile data services including VSATS, Broadbands (IILL & FTTH) and VPPN services in the territorial jurisdiction of currently affected districts of Imphal West, Imphal East, Bishnupur, Thoubal, Kakching, Kangpokpi and Churachandpur for two days.

Considering the worsening law and order situation, the Manipur government has been extending the mobile internet ban.

The latest suspension of internet services in the state was triggered by the most bone-chilling incident in which suspected Kuki militants killed three children and three women in Jiribam district.

"The internet ban has seriously affected all spheres, including the government machinery," said Taragi Cheishu chairperson Khai-

dem Mani.

At a press meet in Imphal on Wednesday, Khaidem Mani appealed to the state government to lift curfew and internet ban.

Curfew has been imposed in Imphal West, Imphal East, Thoubal, Kakching, Bishnupur and Jiribam districts.

"Using curfew as a tool to bring the present situation under control is impossible. The June 2001 uprising took place amid public curfew," Mani said. The internet ban has paralysed court works, educational institutions, banks, markets, among others, he added.

Manipur has been experiencing economic downturns since the conflict started on May 3, 2023. Nearly 300 people have lost their lives and over 60,000 have been displaced due to the ongoing violence.

Khaidem Mani called on the government to let cybercrime units do their job in curbing individuals who are spreading misinformation on social media platforms.

Notably, the immediate circumstances that led to the suspension of

internet services in Manipur was the public protest triggered by the Jiribam incident. Angry protesters attacked houses of lawmakers and vandalised properties during the protests in the valley districts.

The situation in Manipur is relatively calm but unpredictable, sources said. The state has been witnessing massive protests over the Jiribam killings. Protest was also carried out on Wednesday in Imphal demanding resignation of Manipur Legislative Assembly Speaker Thokchom Satyabrata.

The protesters maintained that the Speaker should resign on moral grounds as he has failed to initiate any action against the 10 Kuki MLAs who have been pitching for 'separate administration' demand for the Kuki-Zo people.

Meanwhile, the Centre has been continuously dispatching personnel of the Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) to Manipur. The Union Home Minister recently announced plans to deploy 50 more companies of CAPF in the violence-hit state. (NNN)

Barbed wire fence around minister's ancestral house as measure of protection

IMPHAL, Nov 22: To protect his ancestral house in Imphal East district from mob attack, a Manipur minister has constructed barbed wire fence and iron nets around the residence with temporary bunkers for security forces.

The ancestral house of Manipur consumer affairs, food and public distribution minister L Susindro Meitei at Khurai was attacked by a mob on November 16.

The minister said that the attack on his house on November 16 was the third time that his properties have been attacked since May 3 last year.

"It is an absolute necessity to guard the perimeters of my residence with barbed wire fence, iron nets now. Agitators on November 16 came with electric drills, and hammers with an intention to cause arson, loot and damage to my properties", he told PTI. Recounting what happened on November 16 when the mob stormed and van-

dalised houses of many legislators, Susindro said "I was not present on that day. During the afternoon, large number of women and elders came and my family members had a word with them and they left".

"After sunset around 6.30 pm, a mob of around 3,000 people mostly men attempted to barge in and fired gunshots at my residence. My security forces including BSF asked what was to be done to which I told them not to cause any harm to the mob. However, to disperse them they had fired in the air", the minister said.

"... We have a constitutional and legal right to protect our lives and properties if attacked by miscreants", the minister added.

On November 16 protesters attacked the residences of three Manipur ministers and nine MLAs after bodies of six missing persons were recovered. (PTI)

12 Bangladeshi nationals detained in Tripura

HT Correspondent

AGARTALA, Nov 22: The Government Railway Police (GRP) and Border Security Force (BSF) apprehended 12 Bangladeshi nationals, including three minors, at Teliamura Railway Station in Tripura's Khowai district. The group was reportedly en route to other states in search of employment.

According to a GRP official, the arrests were made following a tip-off about the group's arrival at the railway station. Acting on the information, GRP and BSF personnel cordoned off the station and conducted a thorough search operation. "We detained 12 individuals, including four men, four women, and four children. During questioning, they admitted to entering Tripura through the Silachari area in Gomat district with the assistance of a Bangladeshi tout who helped them cross the international border," the official revealed. The detainees reportedly spent the previous night hiding in a forested area before reaching Teliamura Railway Station early in the morning. "The tout managed to escape upon spotting security personnel. We plan to produce the detainees in court to request remand for further investigation," the official added.

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Meanwhile, the Centre has been continuously dispatching personnel of the Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) to Manipur. The Union Home Minister recently announced plans to deploy 50 more companies of CAPF in the violence-hit state. (NNN)

9th Amur Falcon Festival attracts visitors with enthusiasm

Two Amur Falcons, named Guangram and Chiuluan 2, were satellite tagged by the Wildlife Trust of India

IMPHAL, Nov 22: The 9th Amur Falcon Festival was celebrated with great fervor at the Lower Ground in Tamenglong recently, drawing attention to the significance of wildlife conservation and the cultural heritage of the region. The event, organized by the district administration of Tamenglong, the forest department, and the Rainforest Club Tamenglong, was graced by Awangbow Newmai, minister of water resource and relief & disaster management, alongside Janghlemung Panmei, Tamenglong MLA, and N. Ganesh, IFS, DFO, Working Plan.

The festival saw the auspicious presence of Phungyar MLA Leishiyo Keishing, district-level officers, leaders from civil society organizations, students, and representatives from Amur Falcon roosting villages. The event commenced with vibrant performances, including the Rih Laem dance by the Khunchung Dance Troupe, Phalong and a cultural dance by the Puching Dance Troupe, showcasing the rich cultural tapestry of the region.

In his welcome address, Dr L Angshim Dangshawa, deputy commissioner of Tamenglong, commended the villagers for their commitment to protecting the amur falcon, emphasizing



the critical role of students as future guardians of the species. The program also featured a documentary video produced by the Rainforest Club Tamenglong, highlighting the majestic amur falcon and its habitat.

Notably, two amur falcons, named Guangram and Chiuluan 2, were satellite tagged by the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI), underscoring the ongoing efforts to study and protect these migratory birds. Janghlemung Panmei urged citizens to adhere to their fundamental

duties and proudly shared his personal commitment to conservation, stating he has never tasted or eaten Amur Falcon. He called for the dissemination of the message that Tamenglong is a protector of the Amur Falcon, reaching out to communities in China and Siberia. He also urged the forest department to educate the public about laws protecting forests and wildlife.

The festival included the distribution of prizes and awards to students excelling in various competitions related

to the Amur Falcon Festival, including essay and painting contests, fostering a spirit of creativity and awareness among the youth.

In his address, Awangbow Newmai highlighted that since 2015, Tamenglong has been a beacon of hope for the protection of the Amur Falcon, with the satellite tagging of 5-6 birds putting the region on the global map for wildlife conservation. He encouraged the people to strive for greater independence and self-reliance rather than relying excessively on government support. He emphasized the need for constructive dialogue between the public and leaders to foster development and progress.

To culminate the festival, an evening concert titled "Rhythm of Migration" featured renowned artists, including GMP the Band, Thangmeiso Shinglai, Alamle Heraang, and Mathiuham Kamei, who entertained the audience with captivating performances, further enriching the festive atmosphere.

The 9th Amur Falcon Festival not only celebrated the cultural heritage of Tamenglong but also reinforced the community's commitment to wildlife conservation, ensuring that the amur falcon continues to soar in the skies above. (NNN)

Marathoner Binningstar Lyngkhoi urges youth to join Viksit Bharat Challenge

SHILLONG, Nov 22: Meghalaya's former international marathoner, Binningstar Lyngkhoi has called on the youth of India to actively participate in the Viksit Bharat Challenge ahead of the National Youth Festival 2025.

With a message of motivation, Lyngkhoi encouraged young Indians to view the challenge as an opportunity to grow, learn, and shape the future of the country.

Union sports minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, earlier this week, announced that the 'Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue' will be held during the National Youth Festival on January 11 and 12 next year. During the two-day event, Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi shall be interacting with 3000 youth leaders at the Bharat Mandapam in the national capital.

"As a sports person, I've learned that every challenge is an opportunity to grow. The Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue offers you a platform to showcase your skills, sharpen your mind, and connect with bright minds from across the nation. Dive into the Viksit Bharat Challenge — it's your chance to shine and inspire the future. Believe in yourself and give it your best!" said Lyngkhoi.

Round 1 of the Viksit Bharat Challenge features an all-India digital quiz competition, scheduled between November 25 and December 5. Individuals between the age group of 15 and 29 will be able to participate in the quiz hosted on the Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat) platform. This will test the participants' knowledge and



awareness of India's landmark achievements. The quiz contest winners will subsequently go through three more rounds in the form of an essay/blog writing competition, a State-level 'Viksit Bharat Vision' presentation and finally, a National Championship featuring the State-level winners at the Bharat Mandapam.

Earlier, Mansukh Mandaviya outlining the key objectives of the 'Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue', said, "The festival aims to identify and nurture young talent, providing them a platform to share their ideas for Viksit Bharat. A major highlight for the youth will be the opportunity to directly interact with the Prime Minister and present their ideas for India's future, thereby enhancing youth engagement in politics and civic life."

Mandaviya has laid the target of roping in at least 1 crore youth

(aged 15-29) from all over India to take part in the Viksit Bharat Challenge, which will act as a preliminary round towards the main event at Bharat Mandapam.

The Viksit Bharat Young Leaders Dialogue — National Youth Festival 2025 will convene a vibrant assembly of selected youth from three distinct verticals. The first group comprises participants from the newly announced Viksit Bharat Challenge.

The second group features talented youth emerging from district and state-level youth festivals, where they will compete in diverse categories such as painting, science exhibitions, cultural performances, declamation contests etc. The third group will include notable path breakers and youth icons from diverse domains, including entrepreneurship, sports, agriculture, and technology, among others. (NNN)

No:CHD/HT/BTC(G) 877/2024-25/3 Dated Kokrajhar, the 21/11/2024

PRESS NOTICE
Tender No.HT/06/2024

Directorate of BTC, Handloom & Textiles, Kokrajhar invites Online bids from eligible is Registered Suppliers / Dealers / Firms /of BTR under Handloom & Textiles Department for the year 2024-25 for "Purchase of Furniture for the District & Sub-Divisional offices" in BTC area under SOPD for the year 2024-25 amounting to Rs. 25,00,000/- (Rupees twenty five lakhs) only.

Details may be seen at website <http://assamtenders.gov.in> and also in the office of the undersigned during office hours.

Sd/-
i/c. Director of BTC,
Handloom & Textiles, Kokrajhar

IPR(BTC)/C/2024-25/923

অসম চৰকাৰ
জনজাতি পৰিক্ৰমা (ভৈয়াম) সঞ্চালকালয়,
অসম, কৰ্মশীলী নগৰ, গুৱাহাটী-৬

ECE- 531694/23

জাননী

ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰা সংশ্লিষ্ট সকলো পক্ষকে অৱগত কৰা হয় যে অসমৰ চৰকাৰী/ স্বীকৃতিপ্ৰাপ্ত/ সাহায্যপ্ৰাপ্ত/ প্ৰদেশীকৃত/ মজলীয়া আৰু নিম্ন প্ৰাথমিক বিদ্যালয় সমূহত প্ৰথম শ্ৰেণীৰ পৰা অষ্টম (Class I-VIII) শ্ৰেণীলৈ শিক্ষা গ্ৰহণ কৰি থকা অননুসূচিত জনজাতি (ST) ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰীৰ পৰা ইং ২০২৪-২৫ বৰ্ষৰ প্ৰাক-প্ৰবেশিকা (Pre-Matric Scholarship) বৃত্তিৰ বাবে আবেদন পত্ৰ আৱদান কৰা হৈছে।

ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰীসকলে (Website) www.directorofbtc.assam.gov.in ৰ জৰিয়তে আবেদন পত্ৰ সংগ্ৰহ কৰিব লাগিব আৰু সম্পূৰ্ণ কৰা আবেদন পত্ৰ নিজ নিজ শিক্ষানুষ্ঠানত ১৫/১২/২০২৪ ইং তাৰিখৰ ভিতৰত জমা কৰিব লাগিব।

শিক্ষানুষ্ঠানৰ যুৱকী সকলৰ জ্ঞাতাৰ্থে জনোৱা হয় যে ছাত্ৰ-ছাত্ৰীয়ে জমা কৰা প্ৰ-পত্ৰ সমূহ পুনৰীক্ষণ কৰি প্ৰ-পত্ৰ সমূহ ৩১/১২/২০২৪ ইং তাৰিখৰ ভিতৰত নিজ নিজ এলেকাৰ মহকুমা কৰ্মাগাৰ বিষয়াৰ (SDWO) কাৰ্যালয় আৰু পাৰ্বত্য জিলাৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত জিলা আয়ুক্তৰ (DC) কাৰ্যালয়ত দাখিল কৰিবলৈ অনুৰোধ জনাৱে হ'ল।

সঞ্চালক
জনজাতি পৰিক্ৰমা (ভৈয়াম) সঞ্চালকালয়
অসম, কৰ্মশীলী নগৰ, গুৱাহাটী-৬

Janasanyog/D/9085/24/23-Nov-24

Take immediate action and arrest Gautam Adani: Kharge to govt

Adani group has denied all charges and termed them as 'baseless'

BENGALURU, Nov 22: Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday urged the Centre to immediately take action against billionaire industrialist Gautam Adani, following his indictment in the US in a bribery case.

Accusing Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his government of shielding Adani, he said the Congress will raise the issue during the upcoming Parliament session and demand an inquiry into the charges.

"We will raise the issue in the Parliament and we will demand an inquiry. As he (Adani) is in India, action should be taken against him, he should be arrested. The government knows everything, so they should quickly take action against him in corruption cases," Kharge told reporters here.

Adani has been charged by US prosecutors for allegedly being part of an elaborate scheme to pay USD 265 million (about Rs 2,200 crore) bribe to Indian officials in exchange for favourable terms for solar power contracts.

Adani, India's second-richest



man, and seven others, including his nephew Sagar, have been charged by the US Department of Justice with paying bribes to unidentified officials of state governments in Andhra Pradesh and Odisha to buy expensive solar power, potentially earning more than USD 2 billion in profit over 20 years.

Adani group has denied all

charges and termed them as "baseless".

Noting that for five to six years, the Congress has repeatedly raised the issue, he said, "They (Adani and company) are involved in corruption cases. But Modi does not even utter anything against him."

"Home Minister Amit Shah has ED, CBI with him. Despite having all these agencies, why is no in-

quiry being done? Last time when we raised the issue following the Hindenburg report they were dismissive about it, saying it is foreign thing, it is false."

The Congress has been saying things against Adani, and will continue to say what it has to, the party chief said. "But from abroad too corruption allegations are coming, they (US) are clearly saying it. If the allegations are false, file a defamation case against them. You may accuse us (Congress) of making allegations politically, but everybody is saying it -- Hindenburg, America..."

Further, he said his party's concern is that India's assets are being "given" to Adani. Airports, ports, public sectors, land, energy sectors are being given to him (to operate).

"If he (Adani) does things in a legal manner, we have no objection. Government land is being taken, based on those assets loans worth thousands of crores are being taken from government banks. As he is doing all these things, we feel that the government is fully protecting and helping him,

and through him they (BJP) are obtaining help or benefits for their party," he said.

In what seems to be comments directed at PM Modi, Kharge said, "Claiming to be just and clean in speeches is not enough, your conduct should also be clean..."

"Several investments are being taken to his state (Gujarat), instead of others. This will not lead to all India development or progress from Kanyakumari to Kashmir," the Congress veteran said, adding that "Making one person rich (hinting at Adani) will make small industries suffer. Other industrialists are also there. If you favour a person close to you so much, where will you encourage other industrialists?"

Kharge said going by the way things are being done "it seems they want to become quick crorepatris or billionaires, and want to be known among the richest in the world by creating fake records of assets."

"So, he (Adani) is doing it, and he is being encouraged by Modi and Shah," he alleged. (PTI)

Priyanka's electoral fortunes to be known today



WAYANAD, Nov 22: Elaborate arrangements have been made for the counting of votes polled in the three bypolls in the state—Wayanad Lok Sabha and the Palakkad and Chelakkara Assembly seats—scheduled for Saturday, with all eyes on Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra who has made her electoral debut from the southern state.

The counting will begin at 8 a.m. on November 23, with postal ballots being counted first, according to officials.

The Wayanad seat has attracted national attention due to the electoral debut of Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, who is contesting against CPI veteran Sathyan Mokeri and BJP's Navya Haridas.

Vadra hopes to succeed her brother Rahul Gandhi, who vacated the seat following his decision to remain in the Rae Bareilly constituency after winning the two seats in this year's elections. He had won from here in 2019 and his resignation necessitated the bypoll.

The Palakkad bypoll votes will

be counted at Victoria College, Palakkad.

Among the 10 candidates contesting, the main contenders are Rahul Mankootathil from the Congress-led UDF, C Krishnakumar from the BJP-led NDA, and P Sarin from the CPI(M)-led LDF.

This by-election was triggered by the resignation of Congress' Shafi Parambil, who vacated the seat after being elected to the Lok Sabha from Vadakara in the general election this year.

The officials concerned jointly inspected and ensured all the facilities and security arrangements at the Cheruthurthy Government Higher Secondary School, the counting centre of the Chelakkara Assembly constituency, where the counting of votes will be held.

In the Chelakkara Assembly bypoll, former MLA U R Pradeep is the CPI(M) candidate, while ex-MP Ramya Haridas of Congress and BJP's K Balakrishnan are also in the fray.

The by-election was necessitated by the election of K Radhakrishnan to the Lok Sabha from Alathur. (PTI)

Counting of votes in bypoll to Raipur City South assembly seat today

RAIPUR, Nov 22: Counting of votes in Raipur City South assembly constituency of Chhattisgarh, where a bypoll was held on November 13, will be taken up on Saturday. The ruling BJP and main opposition Congress were locked in a direct fight in this seat, where the by-election was necessitated after sitting BJP legislator and former state minister Brijmohan Agrawal resigned following his election to the Lok Sabha from Raipur parliamentary constituency.

The vote count will begin at 8 am at the Government Engineering College at Sejbahar here, where security arrangements have been deployed, a poll official here said.

The voter turnout in the bypoll for the seat located in Raipur district was 50.50 per cent. Postal ballots will first be taken up for counting

followed by votes cast in the EVMs, the official said, adding that the entire process will go on 14 tables in 19 rounds.

As many as 30 candidates are in the fray for the bypoll, though it is largely seen as a direct contest between the ruling BJP and the opposition Congress. The BJP has fielded Sunil Kumar Soni, a former Raipur MP and ex Raipur Mayor, while the opposition's nominee Akash Sharma, a young face, is the incumbent president of the state unit of the Youth Congress. At the hustings, the BJP highlighted pro-women and pro-farmers measures taken by the Vishnu Deo Sai government, which included launching of the Mahtari Vandan Yojana under which married women beneficiaries are being provided a monthly assistance of ₹ 1,000. (PTI)

TMC meet to discuss organisational reshuffle

KOLKATA, Nov 22: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has convened a meeting of the TMC's national executive committee at her residence on Monday, in which organisational changes, strategies for the upcoming winter session of Parliament, and other key issues like the contentious Waqf Amendment Bill are likely to be discussed, party sources said.

TMC national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee, party's Leader in Lok Sabha Sudip Bandyopadhyay, Sougata Roy, Kakoli Ghosh Dastidar, state president Subrata Bakshi, Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim and other senior leaders expected to attend the meeting.

The national executive committee, originally a 21-member body, now consists of around 16 members following the arrest of several senior leaders by central agencies in various cases and the resignation of others citing health concerns.

"In the meeting, our strategy for the winter session and other organisational issues will be discussed," a senior member of the TMC's national executive committee said.

Party insiders believe that long-pending organisational reshuffles will be finalised during this meeting. Abhishek Banerjee, the party's de facto number two, has submit-

ted a proposal for organisational changes at various levels, which will be reviewed and possibly ratified by Mamata Banerjee.

The meeting coincides with the commencement of the winter sessions of both the West Bengal Assembly and the Lok Sabha.

TMC sources suggest that the party's stance on the contentious Waqf Amendment Bill will also be discussed. The Waqf Bill, introduced by the central government, has stirred debates nationwide.

Opposition members in Parliament have demanded further deliberations, while TMC is considering its approach to this issue both in the Lok Sabha and the state assembly.

Mamata Banerjee is expected to provide clear directives to TMC legislators and parliamentarians on their roles during the winter sessions.

The party's strategy for the Waqf Bill and other matters of national and state interest will also likely be finalised.

This meeting is seen as a prelude to TMC's broader political strategy for the 2026 assembly elections, with a focus on addressing organisational gaps and reinforcing the party's leadership at various levels. (PTI)

Rahul Gandhi is right, Adani must be arrested: Lalu

PATNA, Nov 22: RJD president Lalu Prasad on Friday came out strongly in support of Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's demand for "immediate arrest" of leading industrialist Gautam Adani.

The former chief minister of Bihar was responding to queries from journalists here about Rahul Gandhi's statement on the previous day, in the backdrop of charges of bribery and fraud against the Adani group in the US.

"Rahul Gandhi is right. Adani should be arrested," said Prasad, who is an old ally of the Congress and a staunch opponent of the BJP, to which Adani is said to be close.

The RJD president, who incidentally has been convicted in several fodder scam cases and is on bail, was also asked about prospects of the INDIA bloc, of which his party is a part in Jharkhand, where the counting of votes for assembly polls is scheduled on Saturday. The ailing septuagenarian replied, "I would like to remain focused on my statement that Adani must be arrested. I am not worried much about a new government (in Jharkhand) where we are already in power."

Jharkhand witnessed a straight battle between the INDIA bloc and the BJP-led NDA, which included the JD(U) headed by Nitish Kumar, Prasad's arch-rival and the current Chief Minister of Bihar.



Meanwhile, Bihar Congress president Akhilesh Prasad Singh announced that the party's state unit will take out a protest march on Saturday "against unethical practices of the Adani group which have brought the country into disrepute".

The Rajya Sabha MP also vowed to "aggressively" raise the issue in the upcoming session of the Parliament and demanded "a comprehensive Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC)" to look into allegations against the business house.

"We cannot allow the country's reputation to be tarnished... the uncovering of the scandal has caused bond prices of the Adani group to crash. It is the hard-earned money of the common people," the former Union minister

rumbled. When asked why states ruled by the Congress kept awarding contracts to the Adani group if the party had a problem with the business house, Singh shot back: "They have been able to bid for tenders because, so far, they have not been blacklisted. But the litany of allegations against them are proof that the need has arisen for some drastic action."

When pointed out that the BJP, which rules the Centre, has sought to distance itself from the controversy, the Congress leader brandished a picture of Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Gautam Adani and said, "No two persons have been photographed together so many times.... Show me one instance of any leader of our party posing as a part of the vicious nexus." (PTI)

Tawde seeks apology from Kharge, Rahul

NEW DELHI, Nov 22: BJP leader Vinod Tawde has demanded an apology from Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi for making "false and baseless" allegations against him in the cash-for-votes incident in Maharashtra, saying if they don't he would sue them for defamation.

Tawde was accused by Bahujan Vikas Aghadi, a regional party, of distributing Rs 5 crore to two voters, with its members barging into a hotel room on November 19 in a Mumbai suburb, where the BJP leader was present. The former Maharashtra minister and BJP national general secretary claimed innocence, saying the alleged amount was not recovered in the probe by the Election Commission and police.

"The Congress only believes in spreading lies, and this incident is a proof of the party's low level politics to dent me and my party's image," Tawde said.

The two Congress leaders and the party spokesperson Supriya Shrinate seized on the row to accuse the BJP of using money power to influence the November 20 assembly polls in the state.

The legal notice sent to the three claimed that they were aware that they were pushing a "totally false story fabricated" by them.

"You all have deliberately, mischievously with the sole intention of damaging the reputation of our client intentionally fabricated the story distribution of money. You all have published false, baseless allegations against our client on various media for tarnishing his image in the eyes of right thinking people in the society," the notice read.

The Congress leaders were in a "great hurry" to damage Tawde's reputation, they did not bother to check the fact and or despite knowing the entire fact they made the false, baseless allegations, it said. (PTI)

Maharashtra assembly election: Counting of votes today

MUMBAI, Nov 22: Counting of votes in the Maharashtra assembly elections will begin at 8 am on Saturday, with all eyes on the outcome of the battle between the ruling BJP-led Mahayuti coalition and the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) alliance, which is seeking to make a comeback.

The final turnout in the polls, held on November 20, was 66.05 per cent, up from 61.1 per cent in 2019, election officials said.

Counting of votes will also be held for the Nanded Lok Sabha bypoll, where 67.81 per cent voting was recorded on November 20.

Kolhapur district led with 76.63 per cent polling, followed by 75.26 per cent in Gadchiroli, which has some Left Wing Extremism affected pockets, while the lowest was in Mumbai island city at 52.07 per cent. Mumbai suburban district recorded 55.95 per cent polling.

A total of 288 counting centres have been set up for the counting of votes on Saturday, including one for the Nanded Lok Sabha bypoll.

A total of 288 counting observers will oversee each assembly constituency, with two observers assigned to monitor counting in Nanded Lok Sabha bypoll, an official said.

The high volume of postal ballots has led to the establishment of 1,732 tables for postal ballot counting and 592 tables for Electronically Transmitted Postal Ballot System (ETPBS) to ensure a smooth counting process across all assembly constituencies, the official said.

In the Mahayuti alliance, the BJP contested 149 assembly seats, Shiv Sena 81 seats, and the Ajit Pawar-led NCP fielded candidates in 59 constituencies.

In the opposition's MVA combine, the Con-

gress fielded 101 candidates, Shiv Sena (UBT) 95, and NCP (SP) put up 86 candidates.

Parties like Bahujan Samaj Party and the All India Majlis-e-Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen (AIMIM), also contested, with BSP fielding 237 candidates and AIMIM putting up 17 candidates.

The number of candidates this time increased by 28 per cent compared to the 2019 state assembly elections. This year, 4,136 candidates contested, up from 3,239 in 2019 elections.

Among these candidates, 2,086 were independents. Rebels were in the fray in over 150 constituencies, with candidates from the Mahayuti and MVA contesting against their party's official nominees.

There were 1,00,186 polling booths in Maharashtra this time, compared to 96,654 booths in the 2019 assembly elections. (PTI)

MVA is united, will decide on CM post in Maharashtra within a day: Pilot

NEW DELHI, Nov 22: Confident of an MVA win in Maharashtra, Congress general secretary Sachin Pilot on Friday said there would not be any issue among alliance constituents in deciding on the CM post after getting a majority and it would not take more than a day to "figure out who will get what position".

Pilot, who was given the charge by the party in the Marathwada region and campaigned extensively in Maharashtra, Jharkhand and in constituencies where bypolls are taking place, dismissed indications by exit polls that the BJP alliance in the two states would get a majority.

In an interview with PTI a day before the results, Pilot said the results of the assembly elections in Maharashtra and Jharkhand as well as to the bypolls in various states will provide a "reality check" to the BJP and the NDA.

On the party's prospects in the recent round of assembly polls after the Haryana defeat, the Congress general secretary said Haryana was a setback and a very surprising one but Maharashtra and Jharkhand were a "separate story".

"There is a visible desire among voters to have a change in Maharashtra because this double engine government that was running was not living up to any of the expectations that the voters had," he said.

"The kind of campaign we ran, the kind of guarantees we promised, our coalition partners, candidate selection, our narrative was positive and was well received. So I think we are going to see a change of government in Maharashtra," Pilot, who held a total of 55 public meetings during the assembly polls campaign, including more than two dozen in Maharashtra alone, said.

In Jharkhand, a sitting CM was put behind bars on some grounds and ultimately got relief from the Supreme Court. This kind of misuse of central agencies has not gone down well with the electorate of the state, he said.

"The BJP doesn't have a credible face in Jharkhand. I think in both the states, the INDIA bloc partners are in a good position to form governments," Pilot told PTI.

Talking about the impact of polls on the central government in case



the INDIA bloc wins in the two states, he said, "It is not our job to make the government stable and unstable, it is the contradictions within their alliance that will end up doing that."

"On many issues on, the allies of the NDA are not in agreement. We have seen many bills in Parliament that have been withdrawn, there is lack of consensus, lack of discussion that the ruling alliance has

been used to in the last 10 years," Pilot said.

The results in the Lok Sabha in Maharashtra saw an overwhelming defeat of the BJP and it was reflective of the mood in Maharashtra and it is bound to continue, he said.

Asked whether the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) constituents -- the Congress, Shiv Sena (UBT) and NCP (SCP) -- would be able to decide on a CM face amicably in case

they get a majority, he said, "Running for the chair is what the BJP and its allies are doing. All of us had decided that let us first get a majority and within a day we will decide who will get what position."

It is really not that important for any of the MVA alliance partners to stake claims and none has done that, he said.

"We have been very mature about this because people's interests are far more important than individual interests. But what is more surprising is that the sitting CM has not been projected...because Mr. Ajit Pawar (NCP) and Mr. Devendra Fadnis (BJP) both are uncomfortable with the current CM and that was openly on display during the campaign," he claimed.

"Everyone is seasoned in the MVA. Mr (Sharad) Pawar is a multiple time CM, Mr. (Uddhav) Thackeray too has been CM before and the Congress had a historically strong presence in Maharashtra. So three very mature parties were fighting together, who gets what position is not going to be an issue at all, it will be resolved earliest once we get a majority," Pilot said.

"It will not take more than a day once we get a majority to figure out who will get what position," he added.

On talk of churn in Mahayuti with Ajit Pawar expressing disapproval of Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's 'katenge toh batenge' slogan, Pilot said he doesn't know what the Mahayuti alliance would do but asserted that the MVA is committed to people of Maharashtra and has come together with five guarantees, a joint agenda for Maharashtra and will stick to it.

"I think people have liked what we projected, they have faith in the delivery capacities of the MVA and he doesn't see any issue at all once votes are counted," he said.

Slamming Adityanath's statement, Pilot said no right thinking person will approve the comment that he has made.

"I countered the slogan saying 'padhoge toh badhoge'. That is what we have to tell the young generation. 'Ye baantne kaatne ki baat inko election mein yaad aati hai' (they remember this divisive rhetoric during elections)," Pilot said. "Rahul Gandhi ji has given a

very befitting reply to Modi ji's 'ek hain, toh safe hain', he has elaborated who is ek, and who is safe. Business interest and political interest combining to getting rid of India's assets, that is Mr Modi's statement," he said.

Dismissing the exit polls predicting win for the BJP alliance in Jharkhand and Maharashtra, Pilot said, "Less I say about them (exit polls), the better it is. We will wait for the day results come out."

"I am giving feedback from the ground. So in Maharashtra for example, the soya bean farmers, the cotton farmers and onion farmers are in severe distress and the (state) government and the government of India has only empty promises to give," he said.

The farming community in Marathwada and the Vidarbha region is very uncomfortable with their regime in Delhi and Mumbai, Pilot said.

While polling for the Jharkhand Assembly took place on November 13 and 20, voting in Maharashtra took place in a single phase on November 20.

The counting of votes would take place on November 23. (PTI)

'Nation First' key to India's progress, says Prez Murmu

Rulers who disregarded our rich intellectual traditions created a sense of cultural inferiority among citizens

HYDERABAD, Nov 22: President Droupadi Murmu on Friday stressed the importance of instilling a sense of "Nation First" among citizens to make India a developed nation. Murmu also asserted that the replacement of three old criminal laws, and renaming of Rajpath in Delhi as Kartavyapath, and Durbar Hall in Rashtrapati Bhavan as 'Ganatantra Mandap' were notable instances, saying this renaming aligns with the ancient tradition of democracy.

The president, who was addressed a gathering at the inauguration of LokManthan-2024, a colloquium of "nationalist thinkers" in Hyderabad, also referred to the installation of the new 'Lady Justice' statue in the Supreme Court of India, terming it as another commendable step in eradicating colonial mentality.

Murmu said colonial rulers not only "exploited India economically" but also sought to "dismantle its social fabric".

"The rulers who disregarded our rich intellectual traditions created



President Droupadi Murmu (right) presents a trophy to a woman during the inauguration of LokManthan-2024 in Hyderabad. Murmu stressed the importance of instilling a sense of "Nation First" among citizens to make India a developed nation.

dwellers), villagers, or city dwellers, we are all Indians first. This sense of national unity has kept us united despite numerous challenges," she added.

Highlighting India's ancient global influence, Murmu said the country's religious beliefs, art, music, medical systems, technology, language, and literature have been widely appreciated.

"Indian philosophical systems were the first to offer ideal life values to the global community. Strengthening this glorious tradition is our responsibility," she remarked.

The president lauded all stakeholders for organising LokManthan-2024, calling it a praiseworthy effort to reinforce "the threads of unity in India's rich culture, traditions, and heritage."

Telangana Governor Jishnu Dev Varma, Union Coal and Mines Minister G Kishan Reddy, Telangana Women and Child Welfare Minister D Anasuya, and RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat attended the event. (PTI)

Honouring ex-NASA scientist's last wish, family donates ancestral house to Meerat varsity

MEERUT (UP), Nov 22: Honouring the last wish of former NASA scientist and Meerut resident Ramesh Chand Tyagi, his family members have donated his ancestral house to the Chaudhary Charan Singh University (CCSU) here for educational purposes.

Tyagi, who passed away in 2020 at the age of 87, wanted the house to be utilised for the betterment of the future generations. His niece Shikha Tyagi, who along with Tyagi's son Dinesh Tyagi lives in the US, played a key role in facilitating the handover.

The house spanning approximately 400 square metres is located in the Budhana Gate area with an estimated value running into crores of rupees, officials said.

During a meeting with CCU Vice Chancellor Sangeeta Shukla, Shikha Tyagi conveyed her uncle's wish to use the house for educational purposes, specifically as a library or a study centre.

After securing the necessary legal clearance, the university officially took possession of the property recently.

Confirming the donation, Shukla said the property could serve as a library, a learning centre, or even a hub for musical activities, reflecting Tyagi's lifelong passion for music.

"While its specific use will be decided by a committee, the house will undoubtedly serve as an asset for the university," she said.

A prominent physicist, Tyagi made significant contributions to the scientific community of India. In a distinguished career, which

included working with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in the 1970s, Tyagi also served as the chief scientific officer at DRDO's solid state physics laboratory where he contributed to India's missile development programme.

Tyagi was recalled to India by then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi to work on defence projects.

Sharing how determination and resilience defined Tyagi's life, Shikha Tyagi said, "Despite facing hardships, his dedication to science and integrity earned him the prestigious Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology which was awarded by Indira Gandhi."

Before finalising the donation, the family set two conditions -- the house should be used exclusively for academic purposes, and any development on the property should be named 'Dr RC Tyagi Centre'.

Additionally, a corner of the house should be dedicated to Tyagi's memory, displaying information about his life and scientific achievements, Shikha Tyagi said.

The family first considered selling the house and donating the proceeds to IIT-Delhi, where Tyagi served as a professor, before choosing to honour his legacy by donating the property to CCSU, she added.

Tyagi's contributions to the field of music were also noteworthy. During his time in Meerut, he conducted research on musical scales, proving a scientific basis of the frequencies of the seven notes through a mathematical theory. (PTI)

5,000 veterans throng mega event as Army celebrates 77th anniversary of Poonch Link-Up Day

POONCH, Nov 22: Around 5,000 veterans took part in a mega event here on Friday as the Army celebrated the 77th anniversary of the historic military link-up of Poonch, a border district, with the rest of the country.

Poonch Link-Up Day is a major historical event in the annals of Jammu and Kashmir. This day commemorates the successful military operation in 1948 during which the Indian Army linked up with the besieged Poonch after months of isolation during the first Indo-Pak war.

"Today we come together to honour the courage, resilience and unbreakable bond that the Awam and the Indian Army have shared over the past 77 years," said General Officer Commanding (GoC), 16 Corps, Lieutenant General Navin Sachdeva, while reflecting on this shared legacy of a historic milestone.

The GoC, who visited Poonch and led the event, maintained that it was a unique chapter in military history. He highlighted that the siege of Poonch was unparalleled in the annals of military warfare.

It stood out for the resilience demonstrated and the remarkable fact that no territory exchanged hands -- a testament to the unwavering resolve of both the Indian Army and the people of Poonch.

November 22 marks the 77th anniversary of the historic military link-up of Poonch with the rest of the country. On this day in 1948, the Indian Army, under the revered Brigadier Pritam Singh, successfully ended a grueling 15-month

siege of the border town of Poonch. Despite facing hunger, disease and relentless attempts by the Pakistani Army to overrun the town, the indomitable spirit of the Poonch residents and the Indian Army prevailed.

"For the people of Poonch and the Indian Army, Poonch Link-Up Day is more than a commemoration -- it is a celebration of a living, breathing relationship," said a Defence spokesperson.

The district had been abuzz with activity for the past month, culminating in a series of vibrant events that reflected the festive spirit of the community, he said.

The celebrations were marked by enthusiastic participation in sports such as football, cricket, hockey and volleyball. The villages competed passionately, showcasing remarkable talent and resilience.

"City FC, Shahpur Cricket Club, Shyam Lal Hockey Club and Shaheed Manjeet Singh Club emerged as champions. Taekwondo, a relatively uncommon sport, also witnessed performances worthy of national attention. A bike rally was also flagged off on the occasion," the spokesperson added.

Lieutenant General Sachdeva interacted with the winners, lauding their determination and sportsmanship. In addition to sports, cultural events highlighted the district's rich heritage, featuring traditional folk songs, dances and poetry unique to Poonch, underscoring the unity and shared history of the region.

The Talent Hunt provided a platform for the young performers to shine. (PTI)

NEET paper leak case CBI files 5th supplementary chargesheet



NEW DELHI, Nov 22: The CBI filed its fifth supplementary chargesheet in the NEET UG examination paper leak case on Friday against five persons, including key gang member Amit Kumar Singh of Bokaro who allegedly orchestrated and executed the leak, officials said.

In the chargesheet filed before the special CBI court in Patna, the agency alleged that Singh was the key planner of the gang and was aided by Sudip Kumar and Yuvraj Kumar of Bokaro, Abhimanyu Patel of Nalanda and Amit Kumar of Patna in the distribution of the leaked papers to aspirants in Bihar and Jharkhand, they said.

"With this, the total chargesheeted accused in this case stands at 45, and all of them are still in judicial custody," a CBI spokesperson said in a statement.

The spokesperson said the chargesheet has been filed under various sections of the Indian Penal Code such as 120-B (criminal conspiracy), 109 (abetment), 409 (criminal breach of trust), 420 (cheating), 380 (theft), 201 (caus-

ing disappearance of evidence) and 411 (dishonestly receiving stolen property) and under section 13(2) read with section 13(1)(a) of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988 (as amended in 2018).

The CBI took over the investigation on June 23.

"Names of the candidates who are beneficiaries of the paper theft or unfair means and names of the MBBS student who had solved the stolen paper or who had appeared in the exam as impersonators have already been identified and shared with NTA/Ministry of Education," the statement said.

The NEET-UG is conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA) for admissions to MBBS, BDS, AYUSH and other related courses in government and private institutions.

This year, the exam was conducted on May 5 at 4,750 centres in 571 cities, including 14 abroad. More than 23 lakh candidates appeared for the test.

The Bihar Police launched a crackdown after getting inputs of an alleged leak of the paper and it

soon snowballed into a major political issue.

The Union education ministry handed over the probe to the CBI, which had registered several FIRs in the case, taking over probes from different states including Bihar.

According to the CBI, the paper was stolen from Oasis School in Hazaribagh by one Pankaj Kumar in connivance with its principal Ahsanul Haque and vice-principal Mohd Imtiyaz Alam using sophisticated tools.

Trunks containing NEET UG 2024 question papers were brought to the school and kept in the control room on the morning of May 5.

Haque and Alam illegally allowed Kumar access to the room where the trunks were kept, the CBI has alleged.

Using sophisticated tools, Kumar allegedly opened the trunks to access the question papers, it said.

According to the CBI, the paper was solved in Hazaribagh on the morning of the examination on May 5 by a set of solvers studying MBBS courses at AIIMS Patna, RIMS Ranchi and a medical college in Bharatpur.

The agency has arrested seven alleged solvers and seized the equipment used to open the trunk.

"The solved paper was shared with certain selected students who paid money to the accused. All the solvers, who are MBBS students from reputed colleges, have been identified and most of them arrested. These solvers were specially brought to Hazaribagh as part of the conspiracy," the CBI spokesperson said earlier. (PTI)

Rates of tips for eunuchs fixed in Himachal

HAMIRPUR (HP), Nov 22: After Daruhi, another gram panchayat in Himachal Pradesh's Hamirpur district has fixed a rate list for paying tips to eunuchs on occasions such as marriage and child birth.

Last month, the Daruhi gram panchayat had decided that no hawkers would be allowed in the village without its permission. It also set a fixed amount to be given to eunuchs when complaints of extortion by them reached the gram panchayat.

Now the Darighanpatti kot Panchayat has also decided that eunuchs will no longer be able to make arbitrary demands as 'shagun' and a fixed amount would be paid to them, Gram Panchayat Pradhan Gulshan Kumar said on Friday.

The panchayat has fixed ₹ 2,100 as the tipping amount on the birth of a child and ₹ 3,100 on the occasion of marriage. A provision has also been made to take action as per rules in case of non-compliance of panchayat orders, he added. The decision was taken after some villagers complained to the panchayat members that eunuchs were extorting money and some people unable to pay the demanded amount were being harassed, Kumar said. (PTI)

SC in Preamble's socialist, secular case: Can't say what Parliament did in emergency all nullity

NEW DELHI, Nov 22: The Supreme Court on Friday observed the 1976 amendment to the Constitution adding terms "socialist", "secular" and "integrity" to the Preamble underwent judicial reviews and it cannot say whatever Parliament did during the emergency period was all nullity.

A bench of Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar reserved its verdict on a batch of pleas filed by former Rajya Sabha MP Subramanian Swamy, advocate Vishnu Shankar Jain and others, challenging the inclusion of the words "socialist" and "secular" in the Preamble to the Constitution.

The CJ, however, said, "The subject amendment (42nd amendment) has been subjected to a lot of judicial reviews by this court. The Parliament has intervened. We cannot say that whatever Parliament did at that time (emergency) was all nullity."

The words "socialist", "secular" and "integrity" were inserted into the Preamble to the Constitution under the 42nd constitutional amendment moved by the Indira Gandhi government in 1976.

The amendment changed the description of India in the Preamble from a "sovereign, democratic republic" to a "sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic".

Emergency in India was declared by the late PM Indira Gandhi from June 25, 1975 to March 21, 1977.

The bench said it would pronounce its order on the issue on November 25. During the hearing, the bench refused to refer the matter to a larger bench as sought by petitioner and said "being socialist" in the Indian sense was understood to be a "welfare state". Advocate Jain said in a recent



verdict of a nine-judge Constitution bench, the majority view doubted the interpretation of word "socialist" as propounded by former apex court judges Justices V R Krishna Iyer and O Chinnappa Reddy.

The bench then noted, "The way, we understand socialism in India is very different from other countries. In our context, socialism primarily means a welfare state. That is all. It has never prevented the private sector, which is thriving well. We have all benefited from it."

Justice Khanna said the word socialism was used in different contexts worldwide and in India it meant the state was a welfare one and must stand for the welfare of the people and should provide equality of opportunities. He said the top court held "secularism" to be part of the basic structure of the Constitution in the 1994 S R Bommai case.

Advocate Jain further contended the 1976 amendment to the Constitution was passed without hearing the people as it was passed during the emergency and inclusion of these

tended the 42nd amendment was not ratified by the states.

Former Rajya Sabha MP Subramanian Swamy, who filed a separate plea, pointed out even the subsequently elected union government led by Janata Party supported the inclusion of these words in the Preamble.

He said the question was whether it should be added as a separate paragraph to the Preamble instead of saying in 1949, it was adopted as socialist and secular.

Swamy said, "Not only the emergency Parliament adopted this but (it) was also subsequently supported by the Janata Party government's Parliament by a 2/3rd majority, in which this particular aspect of socialism and secularism was retained."

He added, "The issue here is only this much - whether we would make out that this should come as a separate paragraph because we cannot say that in 1949 these words were adopted. Therefore, the only issue that remains is, having accepted this, we can have a separate paragraph below the original paragraph."

On October 21, the top court said secularism had always been held to be part and parcel of the basic structure of the Indian Constitution, and the terms "socialist" and "secular" need not be considered like a western concept. On February 9, the top court asked whether the Preamble to the Constitution could be amended while keeping the date of its adoption, November 26, 1949, intact.

Earlier in September, 2022, the top court tagged Swamy's plea with other pending matters -- filed by one Balram Singh and others -- for hearing. They sought deletion of the words "socialist" and "secular" from the Preamble to the Constitution. (PTI)

Crime literature festival to begin in Doon on Nov 29

DEHRADUN, Nov 22: The 2nd edition of the Crime Literature Festival of India will begin in Dehradun on November 29, with this year's event featuring expert speakers such as filmmaker Prakash Jha renowned for his socially and politically relevant films.

The event, to be held at Hotel Hyatt Centric here, will conclude on December 1.

Former DGP of Uttarakhand Alok Lal, who is the director of the event, said this year's festival promises to delve deep into crime literature, cinema and social issues, featuring an impressive list of expert speakers including renowned filmmaker

Prakash Jha famous for films such as Gangajal, Aashram and Rajneeti.

Lal has himself written several books on crime fiction in collaboration with his son Manas Lal, including "On the Trail of Thugs and Thieves" -- a collection of crime stories published last year.

The three-day event will also feature another filmmaker Anubhav Sinha who is acclaimed for movies such as Article 15 and Thappad and the much talked about mini series IC-814.

Sinha will discuss the understanding of crime and justice through cinema. (PTI)

ECF No.512252/1545

Notice

Applications are invited from the aspirants of Central Civil Services (IAS and Allied Services) for admission into the Pre-Examination Training Course 2024-25 at the Assam Administrative Staff College, Khanapara, Guwahati. The Last date of Submission of application forms is 05th December, 2024 upto 5:00 PM. The application form and the details of instruction for application forms may be downloaded from the official website of AASC (www.aasc.assam.gov.in)

Sd/-
Director of Training
Assam Administrative Staff College
Khanapara, Guwahati-781022

Janasanyog /D/9126/2423-Nov-24

E-AUCTION FOR TEA STALL

E-auction for Catering contract of Tea stall at Mariani Jn. over Tinsukia Division for a period of 05 (five) years. Details are as under. **Auction Start Date & Time (All Lots): 11:00 hrs. on 04-12-2024; Auction Close Date & Time: 12:00 hrs. on 04-12-2024; Rate Unit: Annual Licensing Fee; Trips/Days: 1826.**

Auction Catalogue No.: Catg-smu-8		
Seq No.	Lot No./Category	Description
AA/1	Catg-TSK-MXN-SMU-127-24-1 (Catering - Special Minor Unit (SMU))	Size of the Tea stall (9 x 8) sq. feet mentioned at Tea stall no 4 (between PF Column no 15 & 16) of PF/1 indicated in the sketch plan.
AA/2	Catg-TSK-MXN-SMU-128-24-1 (Catering - Special Minor Unit (SMU))	Size of the tea stall (6.5 x 11.5) sq. feet (between PF column no 11 & 12 of PF/2) of Mariani Jn. station, Tea stall no 6 indicated in the sketch plan.
AA/3	Catg-TSK-MXN-SMU-129-24-1 (Catering - Special Minor Unit (SMU))	Size of the tea stall (12.5 x 16) sq feet between PF column no 20 & 21 at PF/1 of Mariani Jn. station, Tea stall no 2 mentioned in sketch plan of Mariani Jn.
AA/4	Catg-TSK-MXN-SMU-130-24-1 (Catering - Special Minor Unit (SMU))	Tea stall no 8 size (10.5 x 16.5) sq feet between PF column no 19 & 20 at PF/1 of Mariani Jn. sketch plan.

The press notification has already been uploaded in the IREPS website on 18-11-2024 through e-auction portal www.ireps.gov.in

E-auction for Catering contract of Tea stall at Mariani Jn. over Tinsukia Division for a period of 05 (five) years. Details are as under. **Auction Start Date & Time (All Lots): 11:00 hrs. on 05-12-2024; Auction Close Date & Time: 11:40 hrs. on 05-12-2024; Rate Unit: Annual Licensing Fee; Trips/Days: 1826.**

Auction Catalogue No.: catg-smu-9		
Seq No.	Lot No./Category	Description
AA/1	Catg-TSK-MXN-SMU-128-24-2 (Catering - Special Minor Unit (SMU))	Size of the tea stall (8 x 4) = 32 sq. feet (between PF column no 11 & 12 of PF/2) of Mariani Jn. station, Tea stall no 6 indicated in the sketch plan.
AA/2	Catg-TSK-MXN-SMU-127-24-2 (Catering - Special Minor Unit (SMU))	Size of the Tea stall (8 x 4) = 32 sq. feet mentioned at Tea stall no 4 (between PF Column no 15 & 16) of PF/1 indicated in the sketch plan.

The press notification has already been uploaded in the IREPS website on 19-11-2024 through e-auction portal www.ireps.gov.in

Divisional Railway Manager (C), Tinsukia
NORTHEAST FRONTIER RAILWAY
"SERVING CUSTOMERS WITH A SMILE"

SUPPLY OF POTABLE WATER AND CLEANING OF OVERHEAD WATER TANK

Tender Notice No. CN/2024/NQV/01; Dated: 05-11-2024. Open tender through e-tendering system is invited from experienced and reputed contractor(s)/firm(s) for the following works. **Tender No. CN/2024/NQV/01.** Name of work: Supply of potable water and cleaning of Overhead water tank for 2 years at office cum Kohima officer's Rest House cum Transit Room cum Subordinate Rest house in Dimapur-Kohima New BG Railway Line Project. Approximate Value: ₹ 77,78,609.92. E-tender will be closed at 14:30 hrs. on 10-12-2024 and opened at 15:30 hrs. on 10-12-2024. For details please visit www.ireps.gov.in

Dy. Chief Engineer/Con/Kohima
Northeast Frontier Railway
(Construction Organisation)
"Serving Customers with a smile"

Awards don't create value for independent films in India: Manoj Bajpayee

PANAJI, Nov 22: Actor Manoj Bajpayee, known for starring in critically-acclaimed indies such as "Gali Guleiyan", "Bhosle", and "Joram", on Friday said awards at international film festivals don't necessarily ensure that an independent film will be received warmly at home.

The actor, said the glory of such award is short-lived unless it is Oscars.

"No matter how big an award the independent cinema from our country wins outside, some film that brought recognition for the country, it has nothing to do with the corporates or the business of the film. This is the problem I have with the awards. Awards don't create value in an actor or director's life," Bajpayee told PTI on the sidelines of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) here.

"We receive an award, we party in the evening and forget the next day. But is that award getting me more films or are my films getting a good release? Is it helping me get a pay raise? No, it does nothing. An award's value lasts only for one night," he added.

On Monday, Hansal Mehta shared a review of Payal Kapadia's Cannes Grand Prix-winning "All We Imagine As Light" by American news outlet The New Yorker and said that he has heard that no OTT platform has bought the film as of yet.

Asked about Mehta's post on X, the actor, who has worked with the director on "Dil Pe Mat Le Yaar" and "Aligarh", said, "This is the truth. Hansal hasn't said anything that's not true."

Payal Kapadia's "All We Imagine..." is the first film from India in 30 years to be chosen in the official competition at Cannes and also to win the Grand Prix award.

The Malayalam-Hindi film, an official Indo-French co-production, released in theatres across India on Friday. It is distributed by Rana Daggubati's Spirit Media. On the other hand, Bajpayee said if someone is an Oscar nominee, a whole new value is added to their name. (PTI)



Alia Bhatt returning as goodwill ambassador of ALT EFF

MUMBAI, Nov 22: Bollywood star Alia Bhatt is set to return as the goodwill ambassador for the All Living Things Environmental Film Festival (ALT EFF).

Bhatt said she is thrilled that her production banner Eternal Sunshine Productions is partnering with the film gala for its 2024 edition.

"This festival is truly special—it celebrates films that uplift and showcase nature's resilience while reminding us of the importance of protecting our planet.

Through powerful storytelling, ALT EFF allows us to see and feel the real impact of environmental change," the 31-year-old actor said in a statement.

Filmmaker Richie Mehta, who recently directed the series "Poacher" that was produced by Bhatt's company, will join the actor in championing the festival's mission.

With over 100 screenings planned across India, the 2024 edition of ALT EFF will feature an engaging lineup of films, workshops, and panel discussions aimed at fostering global dialogue on urgent environmental issues.

Festival Director Kunal Khanna hailed Bhatt as a "remarkable artist" who is also passionate about the environment.

"Her creative endeavours through Eternal Sunshine exemplify the transformative power of storytelling in addressing pressing global challenges.

"With Alia and Richie Mehta as our ambassadors, ALT EFF is uniquely positioned to amplify the voices of filmmakers who seek to use impact film and storytelling to drive environmental action," he added. (PTI)

Bhargav Saikia's debut film 'Bokshi' to have its world premiere at IFFR

NEW DELHI, Nov 22: Bhargav Saikia's directorial debut feature "Bokshi", a folk horror fantasy shot in the deep forests of Sikkim in Northeast India, will have its world premiere at the prestigious International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2025.

The film is selected in the Harbour section which is named after Rotterdam's port city identity and focuses on a wide range of contemporary cinema from across the world. The festival will be held from January 30 to February 9, next year.

Starring Mansi Multani of "Pari" fame and "Farrey" actor Prasanna Bisht, the film is in Hindi, English, Nepali and an invented language Bokshiri, a fully developed fictional language spoken by a few characters in the film.

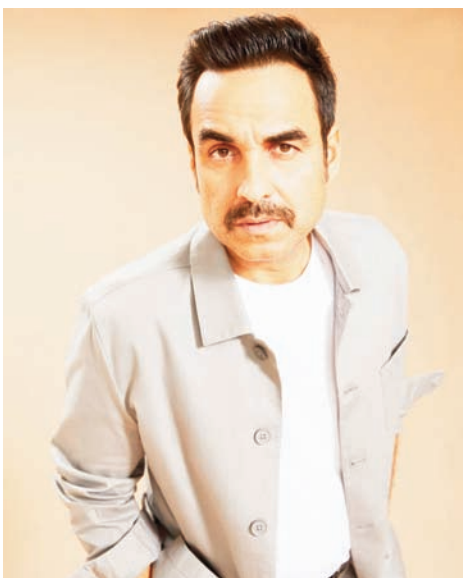
This invented language, presented as the progenitor of all modern languages, has been exclusively created for "Bokshi" by renowned Dutch linguist, Jan van Steenberg, the director said. Written by debutant screenwriter Harsh Vaibhav, the film explores the journey of a troubled teen, who goes on a high school expedition to a little-known prehistoric site and finds herself tested as a long-forgotten myth unfurls.

Bhargav earlier adapted Ruskin Bond's "The Black Cat" for a short, which starred late Tom Alter and Shernaz Patel.

"IFFR, which is renowned as a discovery festival and for their edgy programming, is just the ideal place to launch my debut feature, 'Bokshi' (which means witch in Nepali). It is an ambitious independent production and an adventurous genre film that took nearly five years to complete. I am grateful to IFFR for giving us this dream premiere," Bhargav said in a statement.

At the centre of the story is troubled teen, Anahita, who finds comfort in Shalini, the mysterious History teacher leading a trek to a little-known prehistoric site, dubbed "The Navel". This unconventional school trip into an ancient forest turns eerie as cryptic connections emerge between the Navel and a cult that worships Bokshi, a much-feared folkloric demoness from antiquity. (PTI)

Pankaj Tripathi joins Arunachal Pradesh govt's effort to promote theatre in state



MUMBAI, Nov 22: Actor Pankaj Tripathi on Friday said it is a great honour to be appointed as the festival ambassador for the Arunachal Rang Mahotsav 2024.

This prestigious international theatre festival, the largest of its kind in Northeast India, runs from Friday to December 5, celebrating the rich cultural heritage and creative talent of Arunachal Pradesh. The actor, known for his performance in "Gangs of Wasseypur", "Bareilly Ki Barfi", "Fukrey", "Gunjan Saxena", "Stree" franchise and "Mirzapur" and "Criminal Justice" series, hails from Belsand village in Gopalganj, Bihar. Over the years, Tripathi has become one of the most sought-after actors in Indian cinema, earning widespread acclaim for his versatility and authenticity. Tripathi, who is attending the festival along with wife Mridula, said theatre holds a special place in his heart as it is where he began his journey as an actor.

"It's a great honour for me to be associated with the Arunachal Rang Mahotsav 2024 as its Festival Ambassador. Theatre holds a very special place in my heart, as it was my first teacher, my first love in the performing arts. I owe everything I am today to the lessons I learned on the stage and the passion I developed for storytelling during my early days in Gopalganj, performing street plays and rangmanch," Tripathi, a National School of Drama graduate, said in a statement.

The actor said it is inspiring to see Arunachal Rang Mahotsav celebrating the power and beauty of theatre. "This platform not only honours the traditional and contemporary performing arts of the region but also provides a dynamic space for artists from across the world to collaborate and showcase their work. I am particularly excited about the festival's emphasis on Arunachal's oral folklore traditions, martial art forms, and local performing arts, which are an essential part of our cultural fabric. (PTI)

Nagarjuna says his grandmother used to dress up father ANR like a girl

PANAJI, Nov 22: Veteran actor Nagarjuna on Friday said his grandmother always wanted to have a girl child and when that didn't happen, she started dressing up his father and Telugu cinema star Akkineni Nageswara Rao as one.

Nagarjuna recalled his father, fondly known as ANR, would look cute in plaits and believes that's one of the factors that attracted the late legend to acting.

At an in-conversation session at the International Film Festival of India (IFFI), the actor shared many anecdotes about ANR, whose birth centenary was observed in September. The film gala is also celebrating the legacy of the Telugu cinema stalwart by showcasing a restored version of his 1953 movie "Devadasu".

"He came from a very humble family, a farmer's family. He was born near Andhra Pradesh (erstwhile part of the Madras residency), a village which didn't have electricity. "My grandmother always wanted to have a woman child. She used to dress him up (like a woman) in plaits. He used to look very pretty and cute. We still have a photograph of him dressed as a girl. He

looked exactly like my older sister Sathya. I think these were the things which led him to become an actor," Nagarjuna said.

ANR, whose seven-decade career includes diverse films such as "Vipra Narayana", "Tenali Krishna", "Sri Ramadasu", "Laila-Majnu", and "Balaraju", started out playing roles of women on stage.

"In those days women were not allowed to be an actor or act on stage. So, he started playing women's roles. He first became a heroine on stage.

"As fate took its turn, he was at a railway station when famous producer Ghantasala Balaramayya, who was sitting in the train, saw him walking and said 'nice eyes, nice nose'. Would you like to act? Rest, as they say, is history," recounted Nagarjuna.

In 1944, ANR got his first film "Sri Seeta Rama Jananam" as a lead. He then moved to Chennai with his older brother as his father had expired by then, Nagarjuna added.

"I distinctly remember him swaying his hips. He thought that was acting because he had done this on stage," he said.

ANR also faced a lot of mock-

ery from people who made fun of him for his 'feminine' mannerisms.

"People made fun of him and that really dejected him. He went to Marina Beach where he said he wanted to kill himself because there was so much laughter (mockery) and all of that. He told me he went waist deep into the sea water and then something in him told him (to not do it) and he corrected himself," Nagarjuna said.

The actor said his father, who received the Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 1990 and the Padma Vibhushan in 2011, also worked hard to make his 'feeble' voice rougher.

"Somebody told him your voice becomes rougher if you smoke cigars. He didn't smoke earlier. He also used to go to the beach early in the morning and scream at the ocean for 5-10 minutes to make his voice more hoarse," he added.

On Thursday, Nagarjuna launched the season two of the animation series "Krish, Trish and Baltiboy: Bharat Hain Hum" at IFFI.

The film gala will come to a close on November 28. (PTI)



Punjab FC, NorthEast United clash in battle of attacking flair and defensive strength



NEW DELHI, Nov 22: The Indian Super League (ISL) 2024-25 action returns from international break with an exciting contest between two teams whose charts are on the upward trajectory – with Punjab FC and NorthEast United FC locking horns here on Saturday.

Both these teams had narrowly missed out on qualifying for the playoffs last year, with the Highlanders finishing seventh and Punjab FC trailing them at eighth. However, they have turned a new chapter this time around – starting the season on a strong

footing, with NorthEast United FC positioned third with 12 points thanks to three wins and as many draws from eight games. Punjab FC, on the other hand, have secured four victories in six clashes and claim the sixth spot in the standings. They will hope to brush aside any rustiness after

the two-week-long break and rejuvenate the campaign with similar vigour and vehemence come Saturday. Punjab FC hold an unbeaten record over NorthEast United FC, winning and drawing once in their two matches against them. They had notched a 1-0 triumph

over the Highlanders in their most recent fixture.

A clean sheet in this match will see the Highlanders become only the second team after Hyderabad FC against whom Punjab FC go back-to-back games without conceding a goal.

Speaking of clean sheets, a key factor swinging things in the favour of Punjab FC is that they have conceded the fewest shot attempts (65) and shots on target (20) in the current ISL campaign. Thereby, they have given away only seven strikes in total, winning thrice in their previous five encounters. NorthEast United FC have recorded the best differential between expected goals (11.95) and actual goals scored (19) in ISL 2024-25 (+7.05 xG value). Their 19 strikes after eight games is five more than their previous-best tally after these many matches (14 in 2018-19). At the heart of all of this has been Alaeddine Ajaraie, who has scored 11 goals and made four assists in eight appearances. The Highlanders stand at an unprecedented stage right now, since they have netted multiple goals in each of their previous three ISL matches.

However, they have never scored 2+ strikes in four straight away encounters in competition's history – something that they can achieve tomorrow if their front-line comes to the fore perfectly tomorrow.

Kick-off: 5 pm IST. (PTI)

Sreejesh-coached Indian colts depart for Oman to defend Junior Asia Cup title



BENGALURU, Nov 22: Fresh from winning the bronze medal in the Sultan of Johor Cup, PR Sreejesh-coached Indian colts on Friday departed for Muscat to defend the Junior Asia Cup title.

India, who defeated arch-rivals Pakistan 2-1 to lift the title last year for a record fourth time, will open their campaign against Thailand on November 27 in their Pool A fixture.

They will next face Japan on November 28 and Chinese Taipei on November 30. Their last group stage match is against Korea on December 1. India need a top-two finish to secure a semifinal berth. Pakistan, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Oman, and China constitute Pool B. Confident of a positive start, captain Amir Ali said they have prepared well and are determined to reach the final.

"We are determined to work hard, stay disciplined, and perform to our full potential in every match," Rohit said.

"We are all feeling very motivated and eager to start our campaign at the Men's Junior Asia Cup. The energy in the camp is fantastic, and there is a strong sense of unity among the players."

"The energy in the camp is fantastic, and there is a strong sense of unity among the players. Our recent performance at the Sultan of Johor Cup has given us confidence, and we're focused on building on that momentum. We are determined to work hard, stay disciplined, and perform to our full potential in every match," Rohit said.

"We have been preparing rigorously and are ready to face the challenges ahead," Ali stated in a Hockey India release. "We all understand the importance of this tournament and the opportunity to showcase our skills on the big stage. Our focus is on giving our best from the very first match and secur-

"We are all feeling very motivated and eager to start our campaign at the Men's Junior Asia Cup. The energy in the camp is fantastic, and there is a strong sense of unity among the players." India have so far won the title in 2004, 2008 and 2015, making them the most successful side in the tournament.

For legendary Indian goalkeeper Sreejesh, this will be his second assignment as the coach.

He began his stint with a bronze medal victory at the Sultan of Johor Cup, beating New Zealand 2-2 (3-2) in a thrilling shootout. (PTI)

Lewis Hamilton paces both F1 practices on opening day of Las Vegas Grand Prix

LAS VEGAS, Nov 22: Seven-time Formula 1 champion Lewis Hamilton paced both of Thursday night's practices at the Las Vegas Grand Prix just two weeks after one of the worst races of his career. The Mercedes driver was despondent over his performance in Brazil when he intimated after the race he wasn't even sure he wanted to finish the final three races of the season. Hamilton is moving to Ferrari at the end of the season. "I didn't really want to come back,"

Hamilton said in Las Vegas of his Brazil performance, where he struggled with the handling of his car, called it "unpredictable" and "the bumpiest ride ever" after finishing 10th. "If this is the last time that I get to perform, it's a shame it wasn't great, but (I'm) grateful for you," Hamilton said on his team radio after the race. Hamilton clarified those remarks in Las Vegas, explaining how frustrated he was by the Brazilian performance. "In the moment, that's how I felt," he

said. "I didn't really want to come back after that weekend, but I think that's only natural. It's frustrating when you have a season like this, which I'm pretty sure I won't have again, or at least I'll work towards not having again. "It wasn't a great feeling in that moment but I'm here, I'm standing strong, and I'm going to give it absolutely everything for the last few races." He proved he could bounce back as he

led both the first and second practice sessions Thursday in Las Vegas. He was followed in second practice by championship contender Lando Norris of McLaren and Mercedes teammate George Russell. Max Verstappen, who only needs to finish three points ahead of Norris on Saturday night, was 17th in the second practice. Hamilton and Russell went 1-2 in the opening practice, with Norris third. Verstappen was a more respectable fifth for Red Bull. (AP)

CA to honour late Phillip Hughes ahead of India-Australia Test in Adelaide



PERTH, Nov 22: Cricket Australia has planned a series of initiatives to mark the 10th anniversary of the tragic death of Phillip Hughes including a tribute before the start of the second Test between India and Australia at the Adelaide Oval scheduled from December 6-10. CA will also honour the late Australian cricketer during the upcoming three Sheffield Shield games, as players will wear black armbands and flags will fly at half-mast. A promising left-hander who played 26 Tests, Hughes lost his life just days before his 26th birthday in 2014 after being struck by a bouncer during a domestic match. Representing South Australia, Hughes was hit on an unprotected area below his left ear while attempting a hook shot against Sean Abbott at the SCG. Despite wearing a helmet, the impact proved fatal. "We understand this will be a time of reflection for the many people who knew and admired Phillip Hughes," Cricket Australia (CA) CEO Nick Hockley said on Friday. "We wanted to ensure that the Hughes family, particularly, were

comfortable with any commemorations and that we celebrate Phillip's life and incredible achievements appropriately," he added. The home association, which has produced a special documentary on him, will broadcast it ahead of the second Test, as part of a two-week commemoration programme. A moment's silence will also be observed before play on day four of all matches. Batting on 63, Hughes collapsed before receiving mouth-to-mouth resuscitation and was subsequently taken to St Vincent's Hospital, Sydney, where he underwent surgery and was placed in an induced coma. Hughes, however, could not recover from the blow and died on November 27. The left-hander was viewed as one of the promising Australian cricketers as the team went through a transitional phase. In the Australia-India Adelaide Test that followed his death a decade ago, the southpaw was named as the home team's 13th player with 63 (the score he was batting at in his last match) seconds of applause observed ahead of the game. (PTI)

Jasmine clinches 15th and final leg of Hero WPGT, wins season's second title

HYDERABAD, Nov 22: Jasmine Shekar produced the only bogey free round on the final day of the Hero Women's Pro Golf Tour while scoring a 4-under 68 to grab her second title of the year here on Friday. Earlier, she had won the 13th Leg of the event, also becoming the fourth player to win more than once in 2024. Jasmine parred the entire front nine but then trailed Amandeep Drall at the turn. Jasmine then produced a super finish with four birdies in a row from the 14th to the 17th and

parred the 18th that eventually gave her a convincing four-shot win. Amandeep after two early bogeys managed to edge ahead with three birdies on the front nine. But a double bogey on the Par-5 14th proved costly and despite a birdie on the back nine, Amandeep (72) finished at 4-under 212 in sole second place. Jasmine, who shared the 36-hole lead with the experienced Amandeep, played very steady and parred her first 13 holes, though she missed a few birdie



chances. Meanwhile, Hitaashee Bakshi with two birdies on the front joined Jasmine. However, at the turn Amandeep was ahead by one. Hitaashee gave away back-to-back bogeys on the 13th and 14th and lost her chance to close the season with a fourth win. Hitaashee ended with 71 and was in a tie for third place with Gaurika Bishnoi (70), Vidhatri Urs (70) and Nayanika Sanga (72). They were all at 3-under 213. Sri Lankan amateur Kaya Daluwatte (69) with the day's

second-best score, was tied seventh with Sneha Singh (74) while Ananya Garg (72) was ninth. Kaya also won the prize for best amateur. Ridhima Dilawari (71) and Anvitha Narendar (75) were tied for the 10th place at 4-over 220. At the end of the season, Hitaashee and Vidhatri Urs won three times each while Sneha and Jasmine won twice each. Amandeep, Gaurika Anvitha Narendar and Vani Kapoor won once each. The season's opening event was won by amateur Nishna Patel. (PTI)

Depth that shooting has doesn't exist in other sports: Abhinav Bindra

GURGAON, Nov 22: Shooting has flourished in the country over the last decade and now boasts an unmatched "depth of talent" in the sport, remarked the legendary Abhinav Bindra. Manu Bhaker led the way with an unprecedented double bronze as Indian shooters soared to a new high, returning with their best-ever haul of three medals from the Paris Olympics. "The depth of talent available in the sport of shooting doesn't exist in any other sport in this country," Bindra, the first Indian to win an individual gold medal at the Olympics in Beijing 2008, told PTI Video in an exclusive interview at the Artemis Hospital here on Friday. "There are so many sporting athletes performing at the national level and at the world level. This clearly shows the amount of progress the sport has made in the last decade or so." India's achievement at Paris Games also ended a 12-year

drought at the Olympics, with Manu, Sarabjot Singh, and Swapnil Kusale securing three bronze medals. "There was a bit of a lull where in two Olympics we didn't win any medals but that is part and parcel of the sport. There are big learnings that the athletes have had, the federation made which resulted in good results in Paris," Bindra said. The 42-year-old further stressed the importance of strategic planning, attention to detail, and continuous evolution of the ecosystem to sustain the momentum in future Olympic performances. "I hope that the momentum continues, and the strategic planning continues because I think the performance at the Olympics has a lot to do with the detailing of planning. "Little things matter a lot, they need to be taken care of. I hope that the ecosystem continues to evolve and keeps putting its best foot forward." The 2026 Commonwealth Games has dropped shooting,

hockey, cricket, wrestling from its roster in a big blow to India's medal prospects at Glasgow. Pointing out that the decision to reduce the scale of the Games was made for sustainability, Bindra said this is "not permanent" and hopes that shooting will return in the future. "The whole Commonwealth movement is going through a difficult time, many hosts have withdrawn which has resulted in many problems in the Commonwealth movement," Bindra said. "The organisation then came up with a solution to keep the Olympic movement alive, the solution lies in sustainability and keeping the whole programme of the games very small and that is what resulted in shooting not having a pres-

ence in the next Commonwealth Games. "But that is something not permanent and I hope that Shooting as a sport does make a comeback. I don't think this is an era of boycott, it was something back in the 80's and we have moved on from that. "I don't think that it is an option, the talent in the sport of shooting is immense and the sport can continue to perform as medal winners and athletes who are performing at a great level. "I don't have any doubts that we will continue to perform better and keep improving our medal count at the Olympics," Bindra said. Bindra further said Manu has the potential to win multiple Olympic medals and establish herself as one of India's greatest shooters.

"Manu is a very young athlete and has a wonderful career ahead of her, the world is like a canvas for her. She had an incredible Olympics in Paris. "She has a tremendous amount of character, and a lot of mental fortitude to not just be an athlete but a great athlete. "She has the ingredients to continue to perform and win multiple medals at every level, including the Olympics. If she continues to put in the work then there are tremendous possibilities ahead of her." Bindra also hailed Manu's resilience after returning empty-handed at her debut Olympics in Tokyo. "I think what was wonderful to see was her resilience after she had a very difficult Games (Olympics) in Tokyo. To come back and show resilience and persistence, turn it around and win two medals shows she has a tremendous amount of character, and a lot of mental fortitude to not just be an athlete but a great athlete," Bindra concluded. (PTI)



BGT DAY 1: AUSTRALIA 67/7 IN REPLY TO INDIA'S 150

Bumrah leads India's spectacular bowling comeback after batting no-show

PERTH, Nov 22: Skipper Jasprit Bumrah made amends for his debatable toss call to bat first with a mesmerising opening spell that left Australia scurrying for cover at 67 for 7 and helped India make an emphatic comeback after a flop show with the willow on the opening day of the first Test here.

The match, which was billed as a battle between two out of form batting units, lived up to the prediction at least on the first day. As many as 17 wickets fell, which is the first time in seven decades for a Test match on Australian soil.

The stand-in India skipper, much to everyone's surprise, opted to bat on a track with a liberal grass cover which generated appreciable seam movement and midriff high bounce.

But neither the youngsters nor the seasoned ones in the Indian line-up were up to the task.

It was debutant Nitish Reddy's gutsy 41 and Rishabh Pant's 37, including an unbelievable sixer, that got India to 150 in 49.4 overs with Josh Hazlewood (4/29), Mitchell Starc (2/14 in 11 overs), Pat Cummins (2/67 in 15.4 overs) and Mitchell Marsh (2/12 in 5 overs) sharing the spoils.

On the driver's seat when they came out to reply, Australia had no answer to Bumrah's (4/17 in 10 overs) quality that was on display. Defending a low first innings total cannot be a one-man show and Mohammed Siraj (2/17 in 9 overs) and debutant Harshit Rana (1/33 in 8 overs) stepped up to support their skipper.

The lengths they hit were immaculate, around five metre from the stumps and on



the off-stump channel. The live grass did the rest whenever the ball landed on the seam.

Debutant Nathan McSweeney (10) got a nip-backer and DRS ruled him leg before. Usman Khawaja (8) just froze in his crease once Bumrah decided to square him up by coming round the wicket. Virat Kohli, who had earlier dropped Marnus Labuschagne (2 off 52 balls), didn't make any mistake on this one.

But it was out of form Steven Smith (0), who got a very difficult first delivery that zoomed in and dipped catching him plumb in front.

Once Bumrah set the tone, debutant Harshit, with a bustling action, got one that pitched on middle stump, drawing Travis Head (11) forward before it deviated to dislodge the off-bail.

Australia were reeling at 31 for 4. Labuschagne took 24 balls to get off the mark and also found himself at the receiving end of some heated words from an agitated Siraj.

The Indian then pitched one up to Mitchell Marsh and the resultant edge was brilliantly snapped by KL Rahul before ending Labuschagne's 52-ball agony with an in-

cutter.

Bumrah then came for his final spell of the day to remove the rival skipper as India took control of the proceedings.

But this resurrection was preceded by a horror show with the bat.

Reddy's grit and Pant's brief daredevilry were the only saving grace against a disciplined Australia.

Pant and Reddy had added 48 when rival skipper Cummins, who had dropped a skier, got a fuller delivery to straighten as the southpaw closed his bat face and the thickish leading edge flew to the second slip.

Pant and Reddy were the only two players who were intent on a pushback. Among the top-half, KL Rahul (26 off 74 balls) was ready to grind it out before getting a contentious caught behind decision.

Young guns like Yashasvi Jaiswal (0) and Devdutt Padikkal (0) looked completely out of place during a brilliant opening spell bowled in tandem by Starc and Josh Hazlewood.

Virat Kohli (5) was done in by a short ball from Hazlewood. The star Indian batter couldn't remove his bat from the line of the ball and the resultant edge became a regulation slip catch.

Rahul followed the basics during this course -- playing the one coming into his body while leaving all other deliveries from length.

He got out when Starc, back for his second spell, got one to move a shade and the snicko showed deflection although the batter suggested that his bat hit the pad at the same time when the ball went past the edge. (PTI)

Big stars, proximity to IPL auction give Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy massive context



NEW DELHI, Nov 22: Presence

of a few frontline stars like Hardik Pandya, Mohammed Shami and its co-existence with the IPL mega auction has given the latest edition of the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy, beginning across venues from Saturday, a meaty context.

But interestingly, the players are not sewn by a common auction thread in the country's premier domestic T20 tournament.

Pandya need not to worry about impressing the IPL scouts after finding a place in Mumbai Indians' retention list ahead of the auction on November 23 and 24 in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

The all-rounder's appearance in Baroda's jersey is more in line with the BCCI's policy of leading cricketers mandatorily appearing in domestic tournaments.

So, his aim will be to keep in touch with the game and possibly help Baroda to a rare title victory. But Shami's outing for Bengal is multi-dimensional. The veteran pacer will be eager to come up with a fine show to further underline his fitness after recently taking seven wickets for his state in a Ranji Trophy match against Madhya Pradesh.

It's a chance for him to continue to chart his way back to top-level cricket, and his efforts here will also have a bearing on him boarding the flight to Australia, at least for the latter part of the ongoing Border-Gavaskar Trophy.

That's the larger picture, but the 34-year-old will also be looking to get picked up in the IPL auction after getting released by Gujarat Titans. Considering his lofty pedigree and skills, Shami will certainly find a taker in the auction

room, but a couple of power spells in the SMAT will add more gravitas to his profile when his name is read out by the auctioneer.

Similarly, Shreyas Iyer (Mumbai), who had led Kolkata Knight Riders to title in IPL 2024, and Yuzvendra Chahal (Haryana) will be looking to boost their already impressive IPL CV with fine efforts in the tournament.

After all, in the pacy auction world, a recent productive outing can further add to the monetary value surrounding a player irrespective of his stature.

A quick rewind to Shah Rukh Khan's value rising a few rungs after guiding Tamil Nadu to SMA title with a final ball six against Karnataka a couple of seasons ago will validate that point.

This year too, a plethora of young and relatively unfamiliar names will be hoping to make this tournament a platform to attract big quids from the auction.

Bengal wicketkeeper batter Abhishek Porel, who was part of India A tour to Australia recently, can score runs at a furious pace and the 22-year-old would want to press his best foot forward in the initial rounds itself.

Then we have Abhinav Manohar of Karnataka, who was let go by the Titans.

Abhinav garnered 507 runs at an average of 84.5 at a whopping 196.5 strike-rate in the KSCA Maharaaja T20 recently, and he would be eager to further buttress claim with substantial knocks here in the middle-order.

Young Manav Suthar of Rajasthan too fall in the same category, as he has already constructed the image of a thrifty left-arm spinner and a handy lower-order batter. Along with these established and budding stars, an array of players, who have been pushed behind, such as Karun Nair (Vidarbha), Krunal Pandya (Baroda) and Deepak Hooda (Rajasthan) too will dream to resurrect their sagging IPL careers with some excellent outings in the event. (PTI)

IPL 2025 from Mar 14 to May 25, BCCI shares schedule for next 3 seasons with franchises

NEW DELHI, Nov 22: Next year's Indian Premier League will be held from March 14 to May 25, the BCCI has told the IPL franchises while also setting aside similar widows for the event's 2026 and 2027 editions in an uncharacteristically elaborate plan. The BCCI has also decided to include injury-prone England pacer Jofra Archer, Indian-born American pacer Saurabh Netravalkar and uncapped Mumbai-wicket-keeper-batter Hardik Tamore in the two-day mega players' auction to be held in Jeddah on Sunday.

In its communication to the franchises,

the Board has stated that the dates for the next three seasons are being shared at once to "assist the franchises in planning for the players' auction."

The 2026 edition of the tournament will start on March 15 and the grand finale has been scheduled for May 31.

The 2027 edition will once again start on March 14 with the final on May 30. All three finals will be held on Sundays.

The BCCI had plans to increase the number of matches in the IPL to ensure that it runs for 10 and half weeks and looking at the windows set aside, it looks imminent

that the league's game count will increase.

Archer did not feature in the IPL this year and his run in the 2023 edition was cut short by an elbow injury.

Netravalkar was one of the breakout stars of the T20 World Cup in the USA earlier this year with impressive performances that were crucial to his side advancing to the Super 8s.

The former India Under-19 player, who also turned up for Mumbai in Ranji Trophy, migrated to the USA to pursue computer engineering and is currently employed with Oracle. (PTI)

Spain drawn against Netherlands

NYON (SWITZERLAND), Nov 22: European champion Spain was drawn against the Netherlands in the quarter-finals of the Nations League on Friday, while France was paired with Croatia in a rematch of the 2018 World Cup final.

Italy will face Germany and Portugal will play Denmark. Spain is also the defending Nations League champion after winning the tournament last year. The quarter-finalists advanced by placing first or second in the four Nations League top-tier groups that finished this week. The two-leg quarter-finals will be played on March 20 and 23. The winners advance to a Final Four mini-tournament scheduled for June 4-8, hosted by one of the teams involved. (AP)



অসম চৰকাৰ

মুকলি হ'ল মিছন বসুন্ধৰা ৩.০

মোৰ মাটি, মোৰ অধিকাৰ

মেৰা পূৰ্বৰ গ্ৰাম্য আৰু পৰৱৰ্তী সময়ত নগৰ অঞ্চললৈ
ৰূপান্তৰিত হোৱা এলেকাৰ দখলীকৃত ৰায়তক মালিকীস্বত্ব প্ৰদান

বিশেষত্বসমূহ

- নগৰ এলেকাত অন্তৰ্ভুক্ত হোৱা ৰায়তক মালিকীস্বত্ব প্ৰদানৰ বাবে অসম (অস্থায়ী বন্দৱস্তি এলেকা) ৰায়তী সংশোধনী আইন, ২০২৪ৰ প্ৰণয়ন
- ৫৫ নং ধাৰামতে ৰায়তী খতিয়ানভুক্ত আৰু ধাৰাবাহিক দখল থকা লোকৰ বাবে আবেদনৰ সুবিধা
- ভূমিৰ ব্যবহাৰৰ ক্ষেত্ৰত শিথিলকৰণ

কিদৰে সুবিধা লাভ কৰিব?

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প'ৰ্টেলৰ জৰিয়তে লগ ইন কৰি আধাৰ আৰু পান কাৰ্ডৰ সহায়ত e-KYC সম্পন্ন কৰি আবেদন সম্পূৰ্ণ কৰিব পাৰে
অথবা নিকটৱৰ্তী ৰাজহুৱা সুবিধা কেন্দ্ৰলৈ গৈ আবেদন কৰিব পাৰে

**দাখিল কৰিবলগীয়া
বাধ্যতামূলক নথিসমূহ**

- ৰায়তী খতিয়ানৰ প্ৰতিলিপি
- উত্তৰাধিকাৰী/নিকটাত্মীয়ৰ প্ৰমাণ-পত্ৰ (যদি আবেদনকাৰী উত্তৰাধিকাৰী হয়)
- ভাড়া (Rent) ৰচিদ

আবেদনৰ অন্তিম তাৰিখ
৩১ ডিচেম্বৰ, ২০২৪

বিঃদ্র: উপ-নিৰ্বাচনৰ বাবে চলি থকা এমচিচিৰ পৰিপ্ৰেক্ষিতত এই সেৱাসমূহ নগাঁও, বঙাইগাঁও, বিশ্বনাথ আৰু কাছাৰ জিলাত প্ৰযোজ্য নহয়

ৰাজহ আৰু দুৰ্যোগ ব্যৱস্থাপনা বিভাগ, অসম চৰকাৰ

তথ্য আৰু জনসংযোগ সঞ্চালকালয়, অসমৰ দ্বাৰা প্ৰচাৰিত

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অসম বাৰ্তা ছাৰ্কুলাৰ কৰিবলৈ ৭৬৩৬৮৩৪৯৪৩ ত Assam লিখি ৰাটছএপ কৰক

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